

SPORTS REVIEW

\$1.75 / \$2.25 Canada
47817  May 1986

**Special Section:
THE 10 MOST
DEVASTATING
FINISHING HOLDS
IN WRESTLING!**

Wrestling

**The Rock 'n' Rolls Start Over:
CAN THEY MAKE IT TO THE TOP AGAIN?**

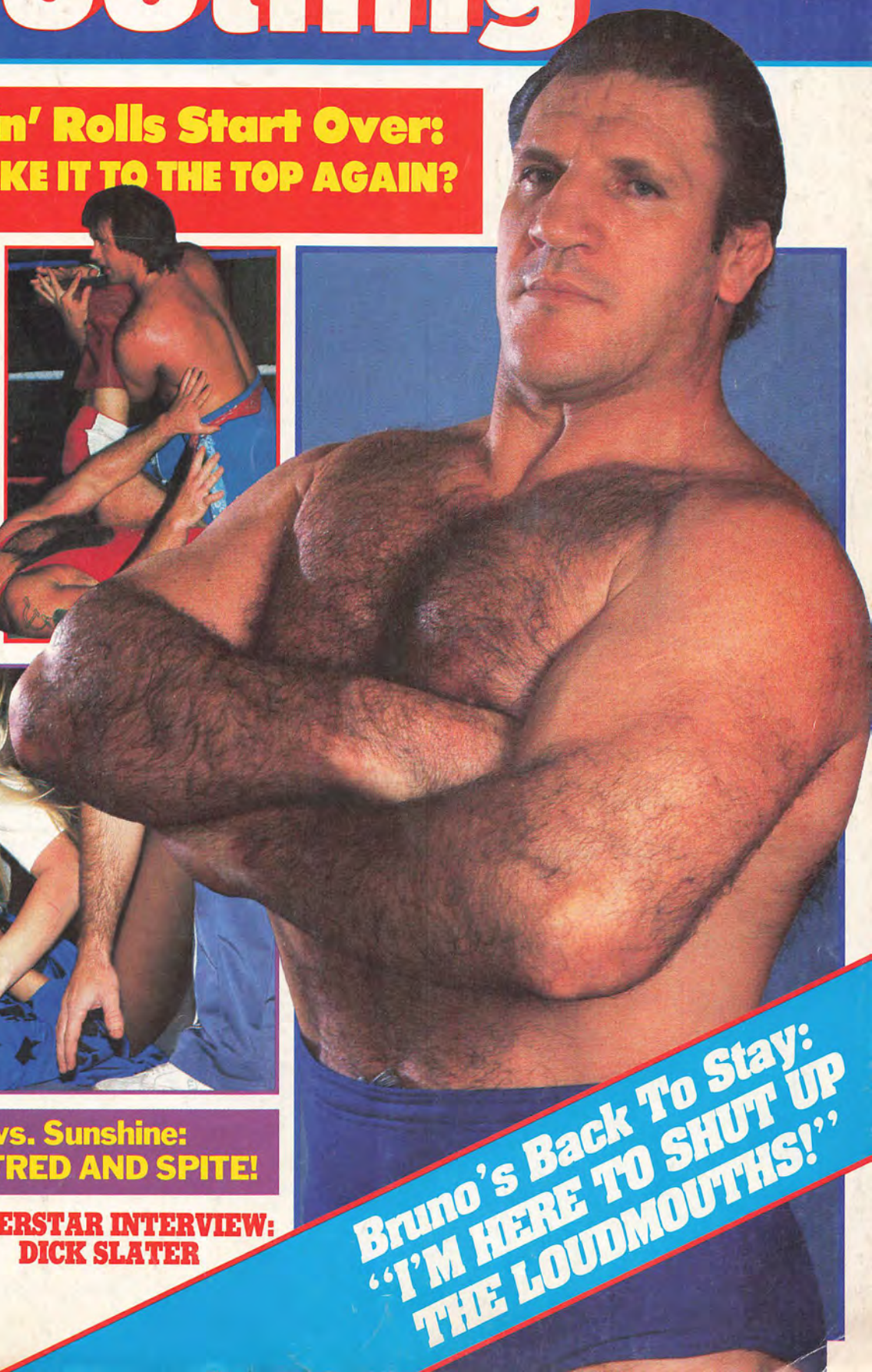


**Missy Hyatt vs. Sunshine:
THE WAR OF HATRED AND SPITE!**

**SUPERSTAR INTERVIEW:
DICK SLATER**

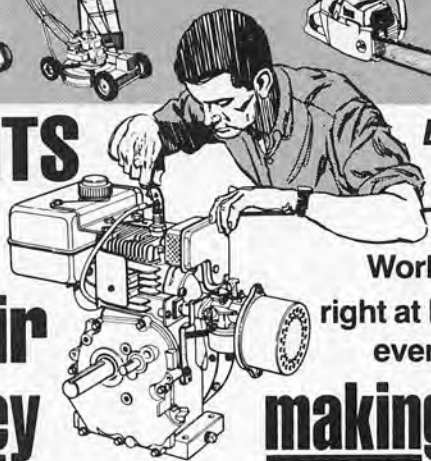


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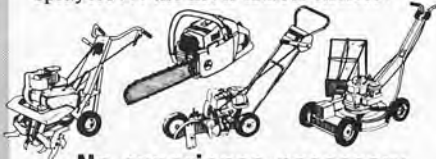
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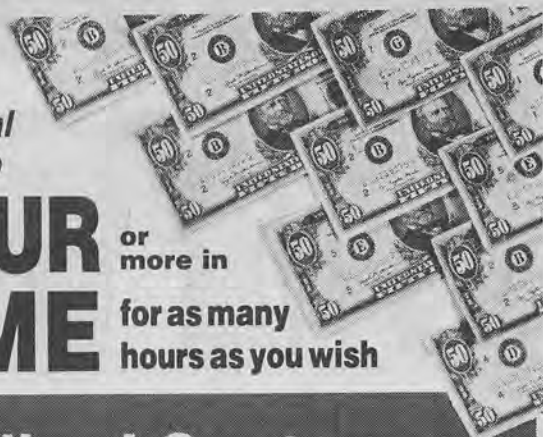
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Get the jump on all the others! You may be without competition now!

Being first; taking advantage of a hot opportunity is the key to making it big, or, at least, taking the cream off the top of a money-making plan. Few people know about our program. But when you do and you learn the details and think about the possibilities you'll wonder why it hasn't been in full swing all along. There's a **great vacuum** out there for this **much-wanted service** and the first one on the scene will get the gravy. Beat 'em all by getting the jump now.

Are these the questions on your mind right now?

Ques. Is your price for the kit you are offering everything I will have to pay or are there "additional" charges that I will have to pay as I go along?

Ans. You can go right ahead and continue to earn money without any further contact with us. But we will be there to help you along if needed.

Ques. What about competition? Will every Tom, Dick and Harry get into the act and spoil a good thing once I get established?

Ans. We will strive to limit and spread out our sales so that they do not interfere with each other and will attempt to assure you exclusivity. When there are two or more orders too close to each other we will accept only the first one.

Ques. If yours is such a great business, how come it has never been done before?

Ans. Like all great ideas, that's the first question they ask. Your customers will ask it too. Perhaps it was too simple to think of. But make no mistake, it required a considerable investment in time and money for us to be able to bring it to you this way.

Ques. When's the best time of the year to get into this sort of business?

Ans. Any time. It is a 12-month-a-year necessity and as good in the heat of summer as the dead of winter. It's always big-profit time for you.

Ques. You say rich and poor are my customers. How can poor persons afford to pay so much?

Ans. Our service is particularly badly needed in poorer neighborhoods as you will certainly agree when you know more about it. Yet the richer folks will probably be the first to admit they need and want it.

Ques. How long will it take me to get started earning big money. I need it now and don't want to wait for "some time in the near future"?

Ans. One hour after you receive our kit, you can pocket your first cash money. In fact, if you don't start making good money your first day, you can sell your kit right back to us for a full refund.

Ques. How about my friends and relatives? Can I contact them? Are they good prospects?

Ans. They are no better nor worse than anyone else you want to call on. Everyone is a good prospect and all will send you their friends.

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NOBODY TELLS YOU WHAT TO DO!

YOU decide when you want to work. **YOU** decide how much money you want to make. **YOU** decide whom to call upon. **YOU** decide how much to charge. It's **YOUR** business to run as you please. If you want to branch out and hire people that's up to **YOU**. You'll never work for peanuts again. But before you can make any money at all, you've got to get moving. You must send us the coupon with your \$10 payment for the kit that's waiting here for you. You **MUST** act now... fully aware that you are dealing with a reliable company. We're not talking about "pie in the sky". This is a perfectly legitimate business... just as much as being a banker, or a baker or a candlestick maker. You will be contributing to the welfare of your community in a praiseworthy occupation. And if you don't say, "you bet!" when you know more; when you receive our kit, just shoot it right back for a 100% cash refund.

Once you get started people will come to you!

We wish we could tell you everything... then we **KNOW** FOR SURE you'll respond enthusiastically and immediately. But if we did, there are a number of drawbacks. (1) It would require too much space in this ad. (2) It might affect our ability to limit the number of persons using our idea. (3) We believe having our kit in your hands and evaluating the contents is worth a thousand words in an advertisement like this one which you might read on the run in competition with the interesting contents of this publication. We'd rather send you the kit after receiving your \$10. Then we know you will give our idea all the thought it deserves, knowing that your money is only held temporarily, pending your wholehearted approval of our program.

It's like owning a money machine and being assured it works or your money back!

Please... if you think we are exaggerating... wouldn't it be foolish for us to do so knowing that we've got a lot to prove? All we have to do is disappoint you **just one little bit** and we'll have to return your money. But it's the **truth... the gospel truth!** Our's is a **MONEY-MAKING** IDEA whose time has come. It's **Right ON!** It's as timely as the space shuttle and as much needed as fresh milk! It won't take you long to find out we're telling it like it is when we say **PEOPLE ARE WAITING**. If you think making \$50 an hour is an idle claim, we are deliberately **understating** because you can make more than that if you want to. You can actually decide how much yourself. We're truly anxious for you to try us because we're **THAT** certain that once you do, you will see that we are sincere and we really **DO** have something wonderful for you. All it takes is for you to fill out the form below. You must be of legal age. And you must be on the level and genuinely desirous of making **REAL** money... by being money-minded, ambitious and dedicated to bettering yourself. We want learners and earners and would appreciate it if the "simply curious" would save our time and their's.

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Wrestling

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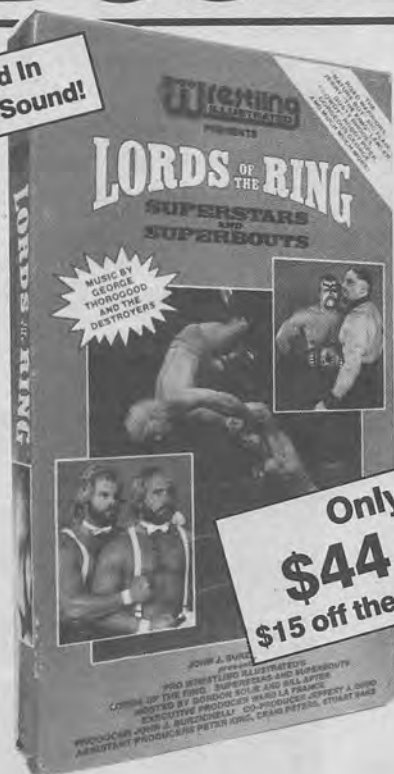
Probing beneath the surface of our ratings system

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- Ric Flair regains the NWA title from Harley Race in a bloody cage match at "Starrcade '83"
- The Road Warriors vs. The Fabulous Ones
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- Junkyard Dog vs. The Missing Link
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For all orders except U.S. & Canada, you must add \$2.00 for each tape ordered for boat mail, and \$3.00 for each tape ordered for air mail. U.S. funds only. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

MAILBAG

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WHERE THE SUN DON'T SHINE

The war between Missy Hyatt and Sunshine is one that will end in blood and misery.

Sunshine is a wonderful person, but she is being maneuvered into an indefensible position. Missy is bigger, stronger, and a more vicious competitor. She also wouldn't hesitate to bring



Missy Hyatt will allow only one person to put her in a hold—and it is not Sunshine, notes Cherita Mancusso.

Johnny Tatum into the ring to help her. Johnny Tatum has no compunction about striking a woman either, he's such a bloated wimp. Sunshine can only hope to survive this feud without permanent injury.

Missy Hyatt reminds me of another Sunshine enemy, the evil and wily valet of Jimmy Garvin, Precious. Both Precious and Sunshine have big mouths until someone threatens to stick something in them, like a meaty fist. Then they can't scoot behind their men fast enough. Sunshine defends herself in the ring with proud nobility, independently, and headstrong. Her defiance might prove to be her downfall.

CHERITA MANCUSSO
Abeline, TX

SEE STARS OVER JESSE

I'm sick after reading "Jesse Ventura: The Talk Of Wrestling" in *Sports Review's* March 1986 issue.

Doesn't he realize the tremendous

risks he takes every time he wrestles? Jesse, you can't go on like this. You've got to slow down, babe!

Jesse Ventura has become the greatest highlight in my life. I eat, drink, sleep, and dream about "The Body," and to think that he defies the orders of well-known specialists just to invigorate his macho image has shattered my nerves.

I'm obsessed with you, Jesse. Without you I'd be lost. I videotape every show you broadcast, every match you wrestle. My fantasy life is fertile, rifled



Jesse "The Body" Ventura has it all—except a valet. Cindy Wilson, a model from Centerville, Ohio, has offered her services.

as it is with your glorious image.

I've been reading about all these valets, and I can see why these girls love their men. But, you, Jesse, have more reason than anyone to have a valet. A man in your condition needs a companion who will unconditionally surrender their life in favor of yours. I am such a person. I am offering you more than my services—I am offering you my love.

Right now, I'm doing professional
(Continued on page 47)

An ATLAS BODY? In 7 days

my method of **DYNAMIC-TENSION** starts giving you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed.

Lose "pot belly." Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a **REAL** man! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach... shy of girls... afraid of healthy competition.

HOW I CHANGED FROM A 97 LB. WEAKLING TO A REAL MAN.

One day, I discovered a secret that changed me from a timid, frightened scarecrow into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" — a "magic formula" that can help turn you, too, into a marvellous physical specimen... a **REAL** man from head to toe... a man who **STANDS OUT** in any crowd! What's my secret? "**DYNAMIC-TENSION**" — the natural method! No theory. No gadgets or contraptions. You just do as I did. Simply take the "sleeping" muscles already present inside your own body — build them up — use them every day in walking, bending over, reaching, even sitting! Almost before you know it, you're covered with a brand-new suit of beautiful, rock-hard **SOLID MUSCLE!**

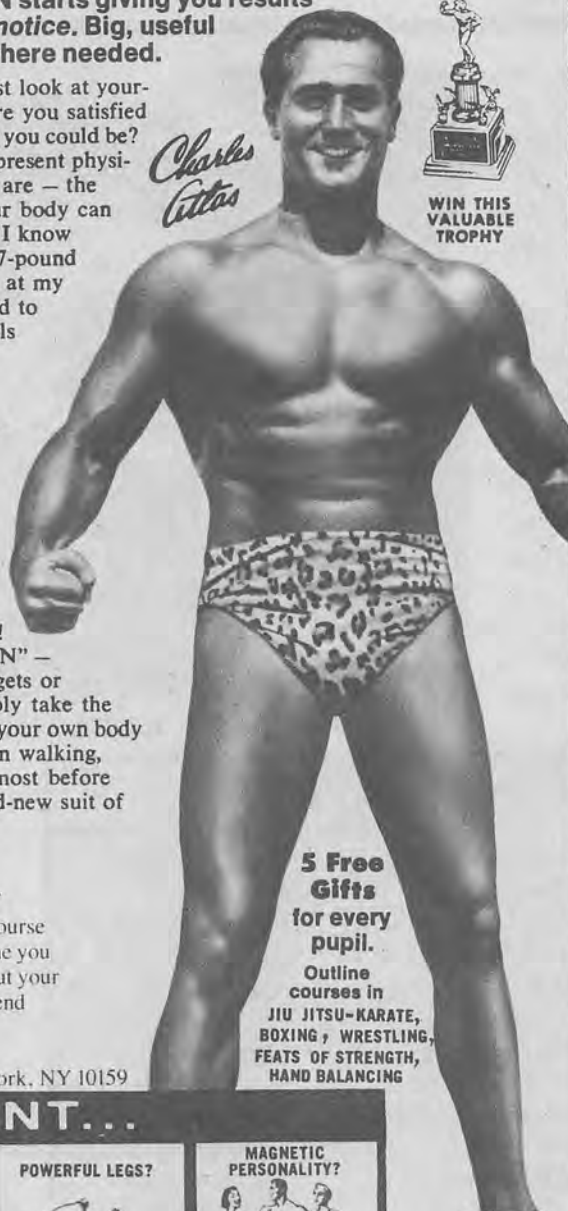
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TATTLER

HAMILTON, ONT: "I think the people of Hamilton have answered the call for Mosca-Mania, and from what I've heard they can't wait for the second one," concluded Angelo Mosca, following his first promotion here ever.

Mosca-Mania? A promoter's bad joke? Ego-Mania in disguise? The answer is none of the above. This wrestling card—featuring Ric Flair, The Road Warriors, and Little Farmer Pete—promoted by former Canadian football hero Angelo "King Kong" Mosca, attracted 12,000 screaming fans to the Copps Coliseum and benefitted the Spinal Cord Society of Canada to the tune of one dollar a ticket. Over \$12,000 was raised and donated to this worthy cause.



ANGELO MOSCA

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Toronto, Ontario

In a move he hopes will be imitated throughout the wrestling world, Mosca will donate a portion of each ticket to a local charity after every card.

"The money raised from this card will hopefully bring doctors one step closer in finding a cure for spinal cord injuries," he said. "Hamilton has a good future in wrestling. I'm committed to bringing the best talent to this area. As you can tell from tonight's card, I'm keeping my promise."

Mosca was correct. The evening's matches kept the fans near hysteria throughout. Highlights included Flair's decisive pinfall over Dusty Rhodes; the Warriors winning by dis-
(Continued on page 60)

Never before have so many respected wrestling journalists been involved in so important a venture. The best correspondents from all over the world have been enlisted to report on the news behind the news. Each month, our team of reporters will bring you the most up-to-date news available from all corners of the globe

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as your present
week's paycheck!***

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the world is full of furniture that needs fixing - and more is wearing out, all the time!

**You don't
even have
to leave
home!!**

**WHAT STARTED AS A PART TIME HOBBY
NOW PAYS ME BETTER THAN \$10 AN HOUR!**

Yes, many men and women make better than \$10 an hour turning old worn out furniture into beautiful, bright new decorator pieces. Are you making \$150 a week? \$200? \$300? Do you put in long hours of dull work with small raises? Is that the way you want it? Or would you prefer real independence and security? *Imagine, you can make \$150 to \$300 upholstering just one chair or sofa these days. And once you get started you can finish jobs like these in a day, or a day and a half. That's REAL pay! It buys you the good things in life that only plenty of steady, big income will bring you.



**WORK THE HOURS
YOU LIKE
TO WORK!!**

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The Inquiring Reporter

No one knows wrestling better than the fans.

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giving these experts a forum for their views month, we'll ask a controversial question

answer—no matter what those answers might be!

and opinions. Each and have the fans

THE QUESTION: "Do you think wrestling should have one authoritative commissioner, like Pete Rozelle in the NFL and Peter Ueberroth in Major League Baseball?"

THE ANSWERS:

Brian Fabante, LaGrange, IL: "Yes, this has to be done. I have written my congressman and senator, asking them to sponsor a bill creating a Federal Commissioner of Wrestling. Of course, this subject is highly political, and my duly elected representatives are wary about it. But I have friends on the staff of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and I know they're taking a good look at wrestling. Whether wrestling wants them to or not."

Sidney Markus, New York, NY: "Haven't we had enough trouble with mentally retarded referees? A mentally retarded commissioner would make things even worse. Pinheads in power are the eternal bane of wrestling. All the controversies that erupt in wrestling are due to idiotic decisions made by referees or commissioners. I don't think one single commissioner is gonna be braver than the morons currently in charge of the big federations."

Mary Shaies, Winston-Salem, NC: "A wrestling commissioner would put a



A wrestling commissioner, according to Mary Shaies, would enforce the territorial rights of each area promotion. Vince McMahon (above left) and Jim Crockett (above right) would have to adhere to the wishes of that commissioner.

stop to the robber baron practices of the WWF. It's crazy and stupid. Right now, Vince McMahon and his cronies are trying to take over a promotion fans in the Mid-Atlantic have enjoyed for the better part of three decades. An impartial commissioner would pull the reins on cutthroat business practices. And if Jim Crockett is trying to emulate McMahon, he's just as crazy! Why do all the promoters pretend they're Alexander the Great?"

Fred Ezzard, Marshall, TX: "Hell no, there shouldn't be any more commissioners. President Reagan has been fighting against bureaucracy, and this is a perfect example. You can't convince me that a single commissioner is going to pass a rock over the people like Moses and give ultimatums in God's own voice. The commissioner's power will be challenged in the courts. We live in a complex world, and some

(Continued on page 50)

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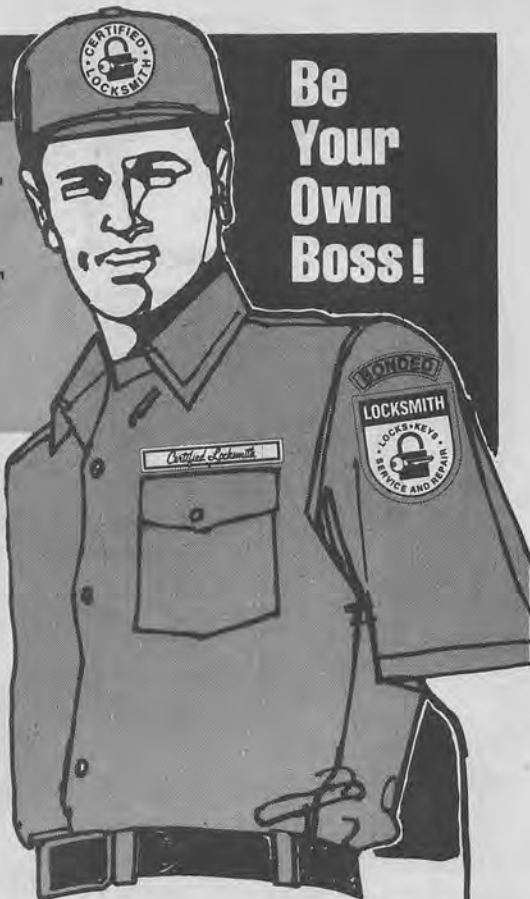
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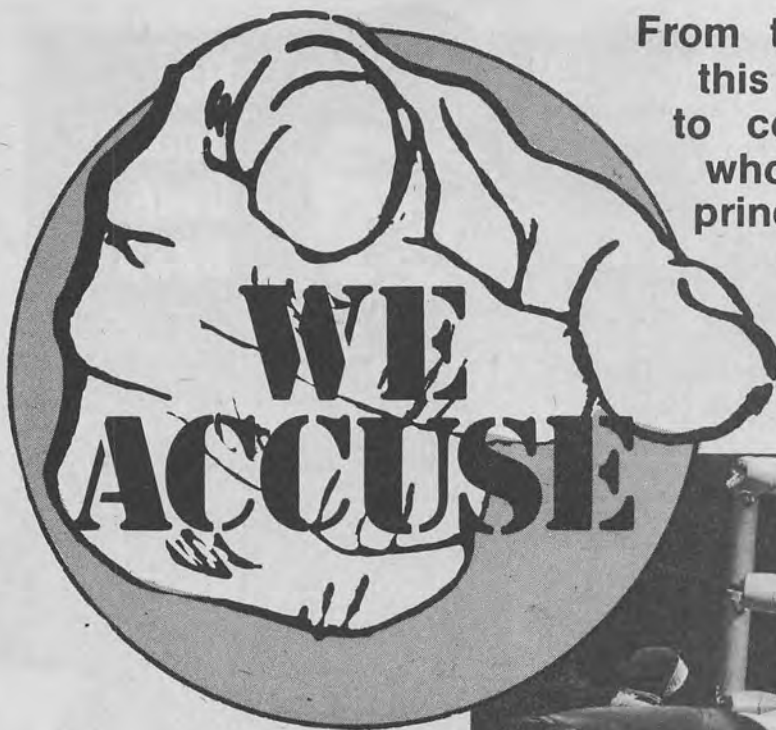
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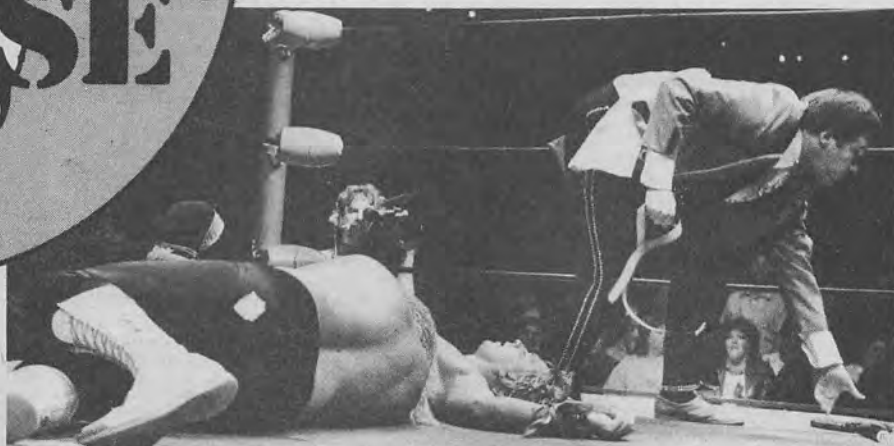
From time to time, the editors of this magazine find it necessary to condemn those in wrestling who would subvert the basic principles of decency, integrity, and honesty. Without such truths, our sport will die

TENNIS IS A sport of sublime terror. The tennis racket—nowadays a lethal composite of boron, graphite, and fiberglass—becomes an instrument of doom when placed in the skillful mitts of John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl. Rocketing a blur back and forth a net at 100 miles per hour while their sneakers burn rubber in cement is the way these men earn a living. Those dancing figures in white on your 19-inch television set deceive: To succeed in tennis, the requirements are nerves of iron, manic concentration, unrelenting commitment, tensile strength, and gymnastic coordination, in no particular order.

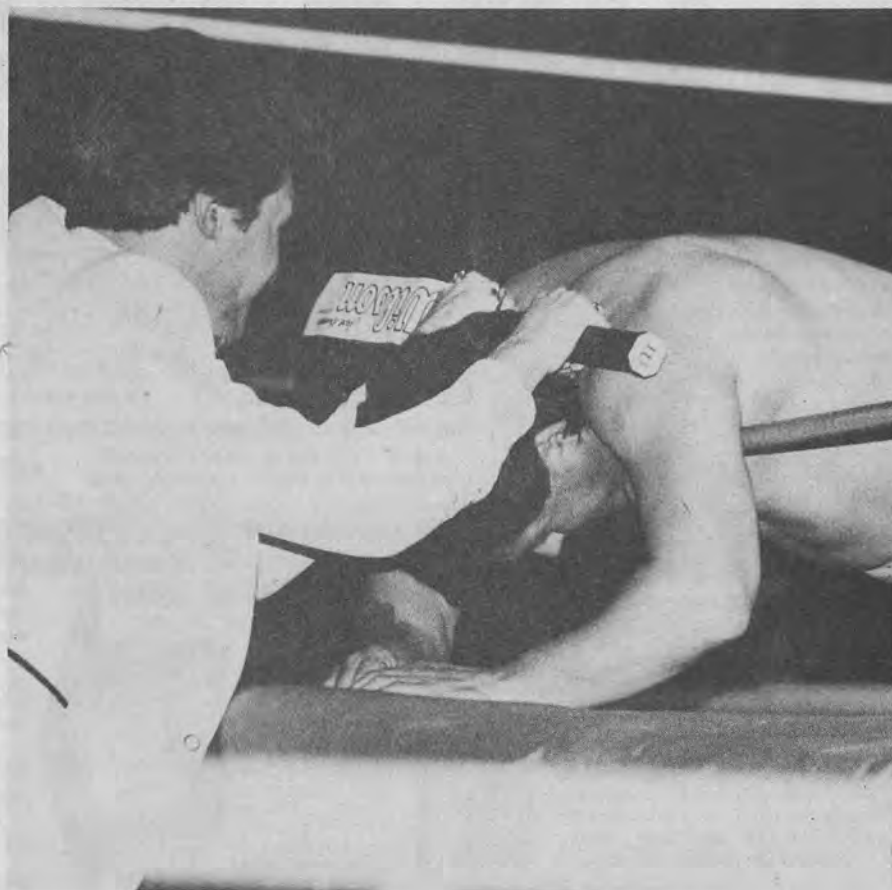
Wrestling demands practically the same prerequisites. In wrestling, balls are replaced by strategic holds; rackets substituted with fists. Except for their popularity, wrestling and tennis share little other equipment.

That is why this month, the editors of *Sport Review Wrestling* accuse Midnight Express manager and notorious perjurer Jim Cornette of blurring the lines between tennis and wrestling by using his tennis racket—rumored to be loaded with a mysterious chemical compound—as a weapon to help his team to victory. In so doing, Cornette has maligned the NWA tag team title

(Continued on page 54)



After rendering Rick Morton unconscious with his tennis racket and placing Bobby Eaton on the fallen Rock 'n' Roller, Jim Cornette grabs his weapon and heads to ringside, where he will push the referee into the ring to make the count (above). The NWA has to assume the responsibility for stopping Cornette from using that racket (below).



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TOP WRESTLE YOUR QUESTION

Do you have a question you want answered by 10 of wrestling's top stars? Each month, *Sports Review Wrestling* will publish a fan's "Question of the Month," which will be answered by the sport's top superstars. If you have a question you would like to see answered, send it to:

ASK THE STARS
Sports Review Wrestling
Box 48
Rockville Centre, NY 11571

THE "QUESTION OF THE MONTH" IS:

"How do you respond to criticism that wrestling is too violent for children?"

**Submitted by:
Alton Dreyer,
Cincinnati, OH**



BILLY JACK HAYNES

"Heck, I can't agree with that sentiment at all. Wrestling *saved* my life when I was young. If it wasn't for positive role models like Dusty Rhodes and Stan Stasiak, and a promoter by the name of Don Owen, I don't know where I'd be right now. I won't deny that wrestling is violent, but there's no gray area of morality in this sport. We're the best role models in sports."



BRUISER BRODY

"Kids ought to see violence. As much of it as possible. It'll give 'em street sense. The best example for kids I ever saw was in Canada a long time ago. Tarzan Tyler was beatin' up some pretty boy, and the guy's 12-year-old little brother ran into the ring to save him. Tyler bodyslammed the kid to teach him a lesson: Don't get involved in anything you ain't tough enough to control."



STAN HANSEN

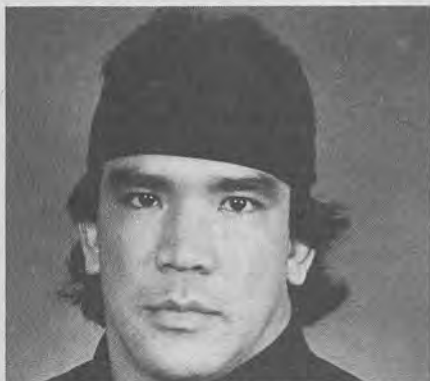
"Hell, I *make* all my kids watch *every* rasslin' show. And I quiz 'em about it at dinnertime, too. Yeah, current events with Big Stan. One wrong answer equals one lick of the belt. I used to smack 'em around with the belt what holds my pants up, but now I can use my world championship belt to chop a few welts in their scrawny butts. Toughens 'em up, hoss."



GORDON SOLIE

"I've read some of that criticism from psychologists and sociologists. I know their hearts are in the right places, but they're mistaken. As a broadcaster, I try to put hideous violence in perspective for our younger viewers. I don't think they should be shielded from, say, the sad reality of a Kevin Sullivan; they have to know the consequences of evil in order to combat it."

RS ANSWER OF THE MONTH



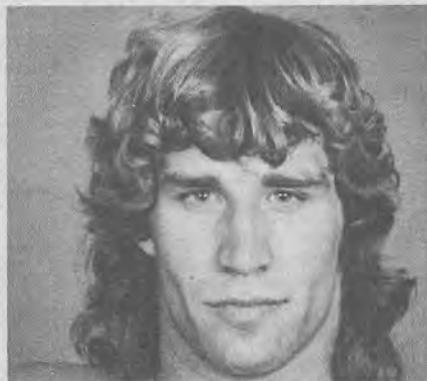
RICK STEAMBOAT

"They tell me fans under 14 years old used to be banned from wrestling matches in New York State. To me, that's ridiculous. Wrestling is no more violent than any other contact sport. Most wrestlers don't battle to maim or cripple, and they're the ones who are cheered by the kids. A clean pinfall over a rulebreaker shows kids that they, too, can triumph over adversity without taking the easy way out by cheating."



ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER

(via interpreter) "Children? Braised on a spit is best. Cooked is best, because junk food diets of American youngsters spoil fresh meat. Nutrition for body of Sudanese steel like mine. Prefer uncooked chicken, lamb, vital organs from beasts of burden. This much is energy muscle feed, unlike spoiled meat of humans who sit their muscles at television screens. Still, children are tastier than wrinkled, dried-up grannies."



KERRY VON ERICH

"I was lucky enough to grow up as a Von Erich, part of a family that cherished wrestling and all that it stands for. But I don't know what I would have done if I hadn't been exposed to wrestling at an early age. I wouldn't recommend this line of work for most kids, but if you're tough enough to take the bruises and fair enough to handle the feuds without turning bitter, there is nothing more rewarding."



PRECIOUS

"Kids? Yeeecchh! Kids are supposed to be angels, right? Kids at the matches are holy terrors, man. Most of the filthy names I hear come out of the foul mouths of babes, 10-year-olds who drool over the *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit issue. And their parents promise to buy 'em chocolate chip ice cream if they hurl abuse at me! Brats are too violent for wrestling, not the other way around!"



DUSTY RHODES

"Yo, I appreciate the concern I hear from mommies and daddies about lettin' the wee pals watch wrestling. It ain't pretty sometimes. But then I think about all them pediatric wards in hospitals I've been to, and the little fella in a wheelchair who gave me an oil portrait of Willie Nelson for my last birthday. He don't think rasslin's a bad example for the kids."



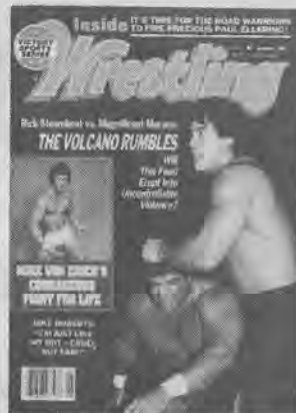
MR. WRESTLING II

"During the course of a long career, I met a lot of kids and their parents. I never saw a child who was negatively influenced by our sport. I like to think we stand for something noble in the hearts of men, a striving for honor and decency. Children realize that it is unprincipled men who cause terrible violence in the ring. Fan favorites inspire them to learn the right lessons about life."

BACK ISSUES OF

Inside Wrestling

Be sure to fill in the gaps in your collection of INSIDE WRESTLING, "The magazine that rips the lid off pro wrestling." Get all the information you need to keep up on the pro wrestling scene. Don't be left out. Avoid sellouts—order today!



JANUARY 1986

July 1974/Stories include: Garea, Zbyszko, Heenan, Strongbow.

August 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Sheik, Albano, Ladd.

September 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.

November 1974/Stories include: Garvin, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.

June 1975/Stories include: Sammartino, Abdullah, LeDuc, Brisco.

August 1975/Stories include: Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.

September 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Funk, Valiant, Gagne.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.

March 1976/Stories include: Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.

April 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.

June 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Bockwinkel, Flair, Mascaras.

August 1976/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.

September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.

October 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.

November 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.

December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.

January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.

February 1977/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Sammartino, Gagne.

May 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Sheik, Race.

August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.

September 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.

October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.

November 1977/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.

December 1977/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.

March 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.

April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.

August 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.

November 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.

December 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.

January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.

February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.

April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.

June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.

July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.

August 1979/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.

September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.

October 1979/Stories include: Rich, Rhodes, Backlund, Putski.

November 1979/Stories include: Snuka, Heenan, Race, Backlund.

February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.

March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.

April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.

July 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.

August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.

September 1980/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.

November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

February 1981/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.

April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.

June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.

February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.

July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.

June 1983/Stories include: Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.

July 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.

August 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.

September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

January 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Rich, Superstar, Piper.

February 1984/Stories include: Abdullah, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.

March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.

May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.

August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

October 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

November 1984/Stories include: Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.

December 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.

January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

March 1985/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.

June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.

July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

August 1985/Stories include: Wrestlemania, Zbyszko vs. The Tonga Kid.

September 1985/Stories include: Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.

October 1985/Stories include: Russian menace, Von Erichs, Rude & Barr.

November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.

December 1985/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.

January 1986/Stories include: Steamboat, Mike Von Erich, The Road Warriors.

February 1986/Stories include: Rock 'n' Roll Express, The Road Warriors, Mulligan & Windham.

March 1986/Stories include: Windham & Rotundo, Road Warriors vs. The Russians, Hillbilly Jim, Rude, Lawler.

April 1986/Stories include: Scott Hall, Rhodes, Flair, Andre, Bill Watts.

INSIDE WRESTLING

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March 1986/Stories include: Lance Von Erich, Duggan, Hansen vs. Martel.

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SCOTT HALL & CURT HENNIG

THIS FEATURE COULD be the death of *Sports Review Wrestling* as we know it. The editorial meetings are getting homicidal.

Sometimes our choices are relatively clear-cut. In the April issue of *SRW*, we honored Stan Hansen for being the first new World champion in 19 months. This time around, there wasn't much action in singles competition—virtually no major title changes. And the editorial meeting to decide this month's honorary turned out to be "the most chaotic and violent I've witnessed in 15 years on the job here," according to Senior Editor Bill Apter. "I've seen barbed wire fence matches conducted with more civility."

We knew the decision to make new AWA World tag team champions Scott Hall and Curt Hennig Wrestlers of the Month would be controversial, but we didn't think it tear our own editorial staff in two. Assistant Editor Jim Schuermann objected purely on the grounds that this should be a singles award. "In extreme instances this could be a tag team award. The Midnight Express, for example, could be deserving this month. But everybody knows Scott Hall is carrying Curt Hennig on his shoulders. Hall beat Jim Garvin in precisely 37 seconds in a singles match, and he's had other singles successes in the past month—why not give *him* the glory?"

Assistant Editor Eddie Ellner took offense. "Why *shouldn't* a tag team win the award? Don't be conservative. I know they stink, but who cares? They're champions. Number One is Number One, and Number Two is nothing. All else is secondary. Hall and Hennig won the titles, and that's what counts."

The argument persisted, and turned into shouting. "They won a 58-minute match for the title," Ellner screamed. "Your man Lou Thesz would have been proud!"

"Of course they beat Garvin and Regal," retorted Schuermann. "Nobody was still awake to see the pinfall!" The clamorous dialogue went on and on, to the point of obscene name-calling, and Ellner stormed off to the Executive Men's Room. He insists that he didn't realize Schuermann was trailing him, and that slamming the door in Schuermann's face as he walked in was purely accidental. Intentional or not, the impact of the door aggravated cartilage

damage in Schuermann's recently healed broken nose, an injury stemming from an unpleasant incident with a bouncer in Matt Brock's favorite East Village bar. The emotional damage between the two former friends may be irreparable.

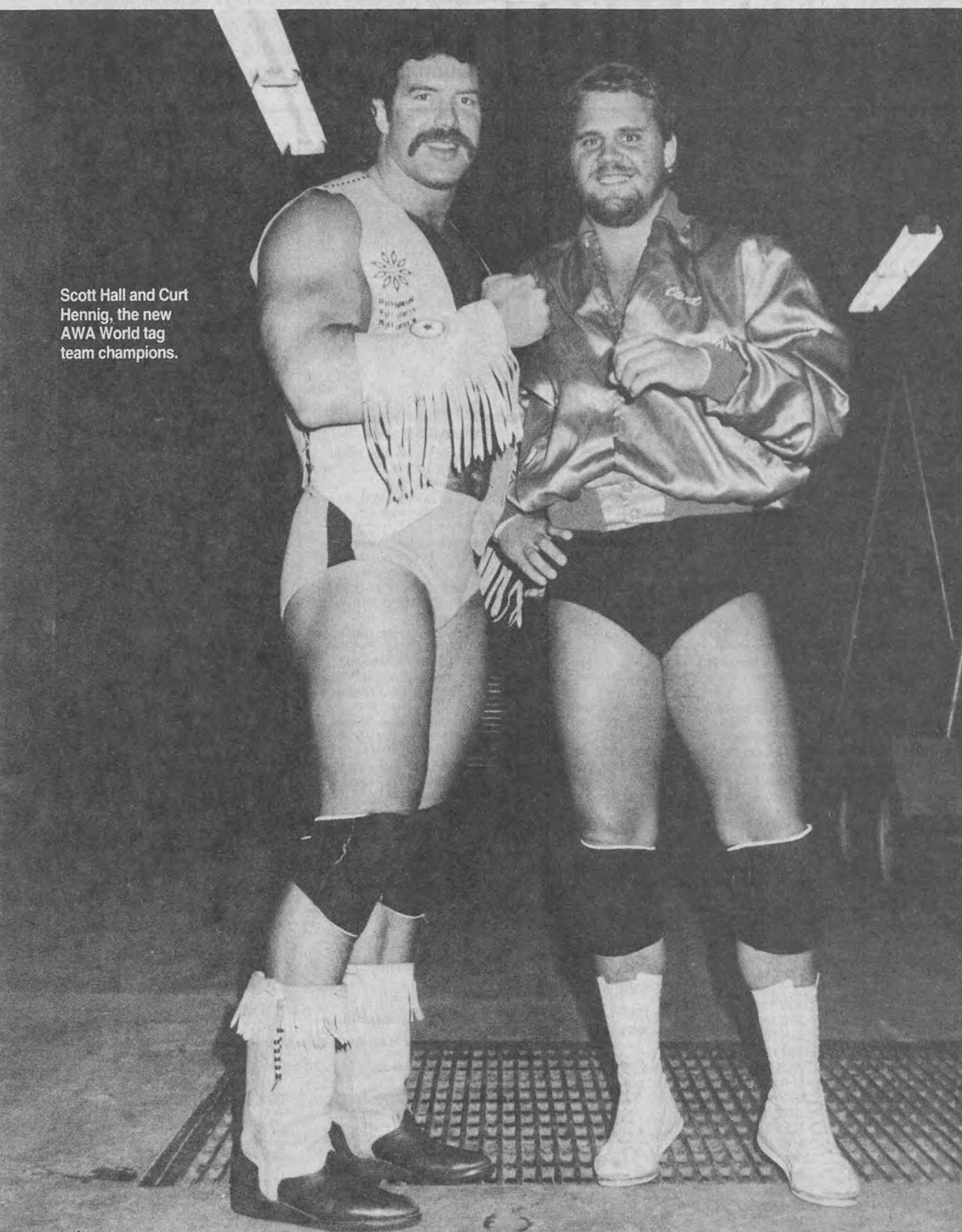
But enough of the office soap opera. Scott Hall and Curt Hennig, AWA World tag team champions. It has a nice ring to it. They could rival the likes of The Road Warriors, the Vachon brothers, and Nick Bockwinkel and Ray Stevens as one of the finest AWA tag team combinations in history. Although Schuermann is correct in saying that Hall would deserve the Wrestler of the Month honor on his own, he is terribly wrong in assuming that Hall "carries" Curt Hennig. Hall would have been extremely fortunate to win the tag team title with any other partner besides Hennig. Hennig is an underrated scientific grappler who hasn't had the right career breaks up until now. His experience and remarkable agility provides a counterpoint to Hall's brute strength and precocious talent.

But don't listen to *Sports Review Wrestling*; ask Scott Hall himself. "I wouldn't be where I am today without Curt. When I think of all the countless hours he's spent with me in the gym, preparing me for every conceivable situation in the ring—well, gee. He's better than any manager could possibly be."

Hall's feelings aside, the big guy is bound to be the focal point of this tag team, to the fans, opponents, and media alike. Having finally won a major world title, Curt's going to face certain realities of the crown. How will it affect him (how has it *already* affected him?) to be ignored while the fans chant Hall's name and court Hall's autographs? Will the scourge of envy rear its ugly head and embitter Hennig? We call on this tag team's fans to give equal, due credit to both members; otherwise, the results could be tragic.

But that's only a possible scenario. We imagine that Curt Hennig is stronger than that emotionally. Scott Hall and Curt Hennig make a dynamite wrestling duo; their 58 minutes of warfare against Garvin and Regal proved that. They know what it's like in the trenches. And they know what it takes to be champions. □

Scott Hall and Curt Hennig, the new AWA World tag team champions.



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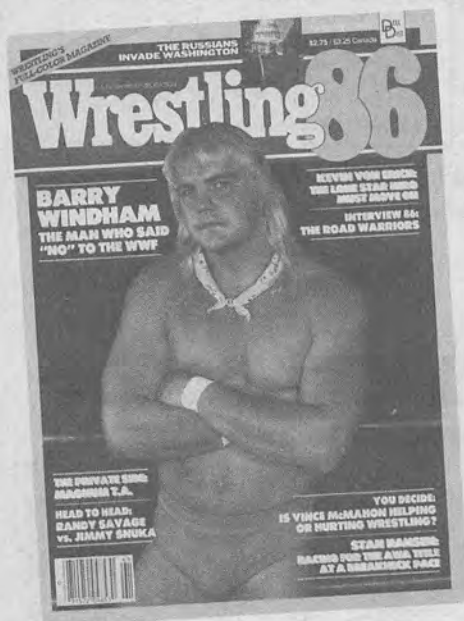
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IMAGINE YOURSELF TO be a top-level professional wrestler. You're in the ring against an opponent who is a bit more skilled and experienced, but it's a more even match than it seems on paper because you have enthusiasm and the element of surprise by your side.

Yes, surprise. You came out of your corner with a flurry of offense and now you've got your opponent at a marked disadvantage. You feel good about yourself, and you're beginning to really control the pace of the match. You can sense that a victory is imminent.

Before you realize what's hap-

pening, though, there's a blinding flash of activity. You feel your body hurled through the air. Pain racks your chest. A sickening thud assaults your ears as your back is slammed to the mat. Before the stars can clear away from in front of your eyes, the referee has slapped the mat a third time and you've lost the match.

So much for that imminent victory—you've just become the victim of Magnum T.A.'s belly-to-belly suplex.

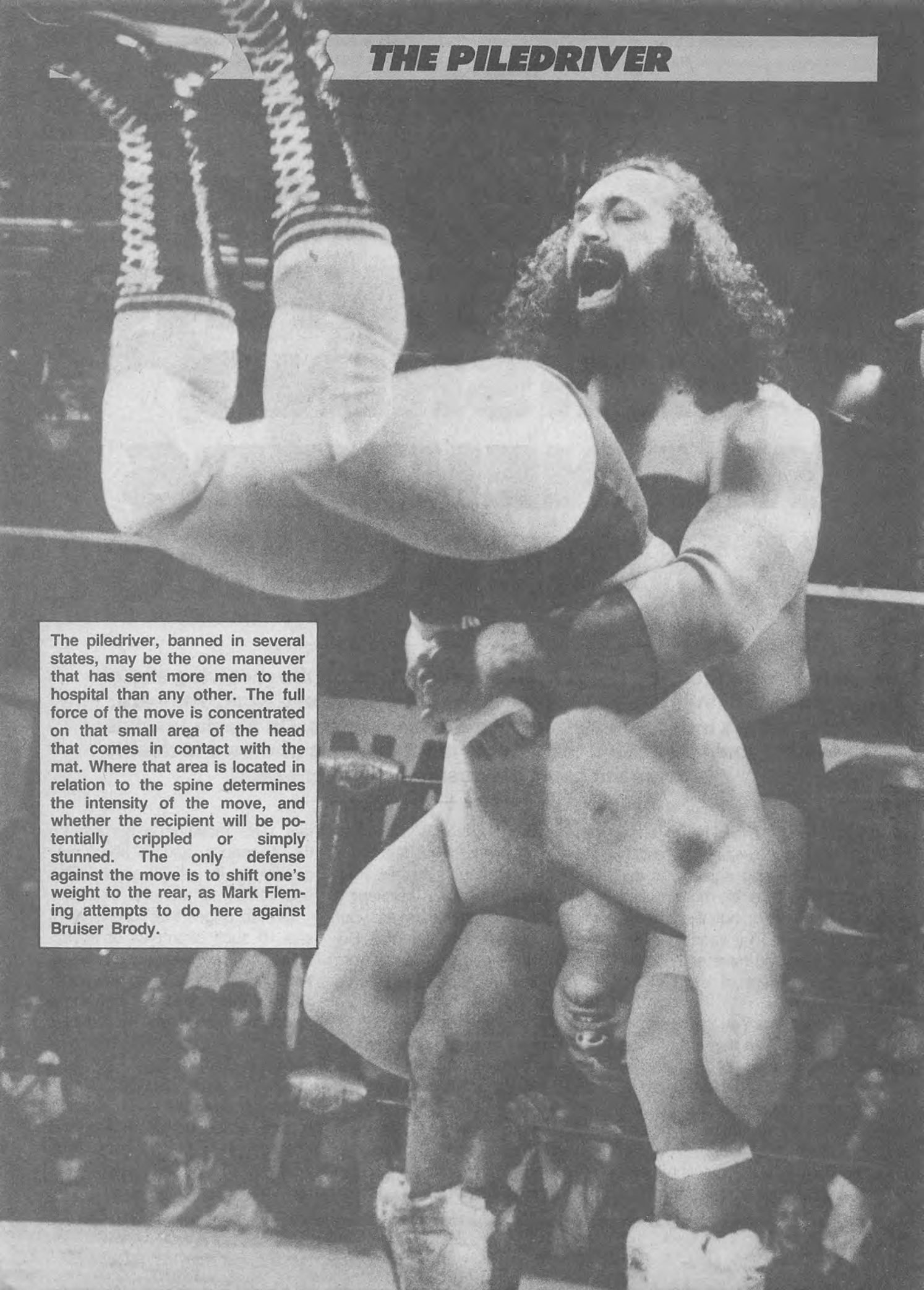
Such is the power of a finishing maneuver. Its user, assuming his proficiency, can transform his own seeming defeat into glorious vic-

tory. The move is a surprise to the opponent, and is shockingly deadly in its effectiveness. The belly-to-belly is just one example.

On the pages that follow, you'll see 10 such examples of devastating finishing maneuvers, moves that can instantly bring an opponent's shoulders to the mat and a match to a swift end. Each maneuver is illustrated by the best peak-action photograph available from the vast *Sports Review Wrestling* files.

This is indeed a section that demonstrates the danger and, ironically, the violent beauty of the sport of professional wrestling.

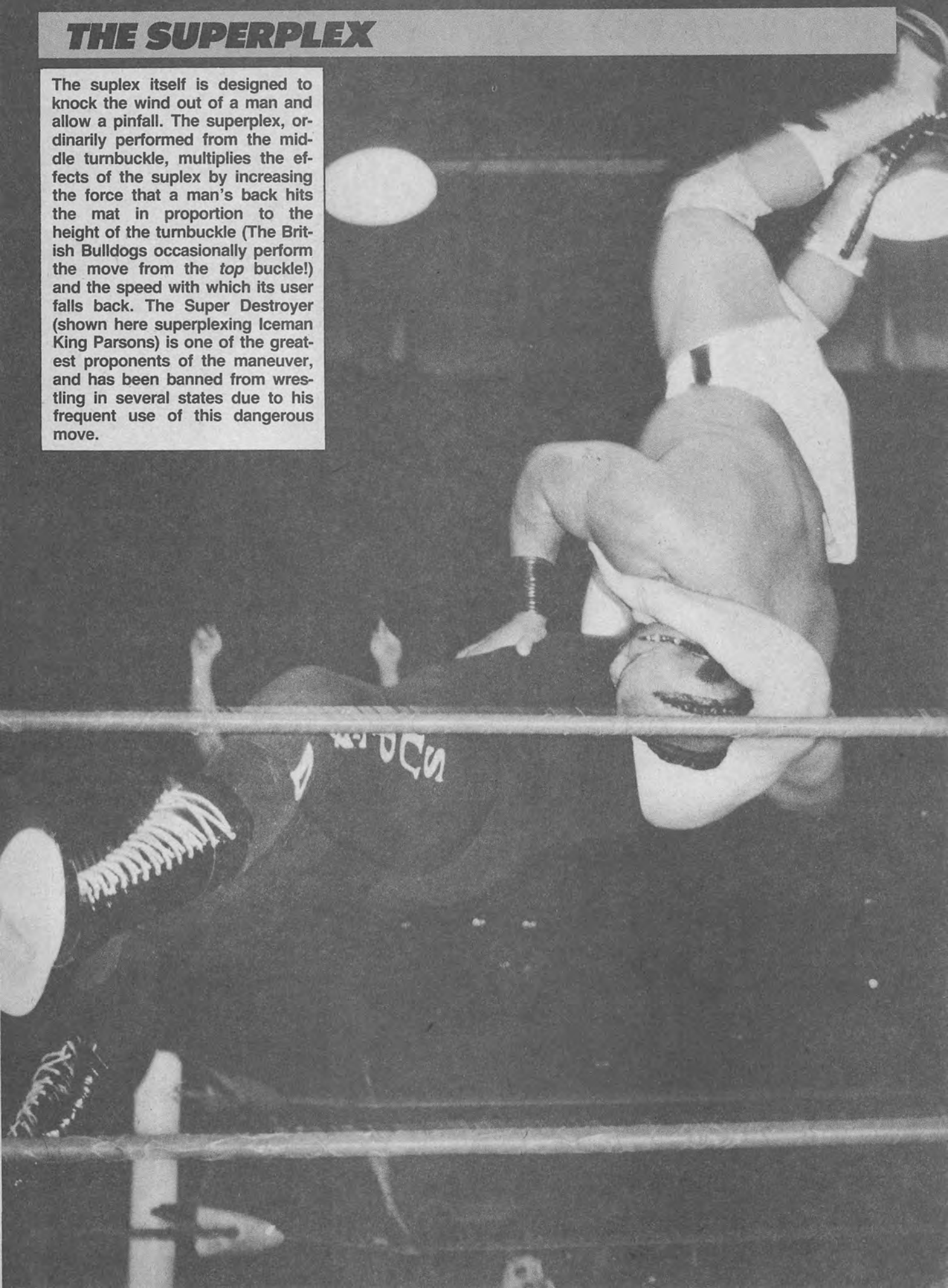
THE PILEDRIVER



The piledriver, banned in several states, may be the one maneuver that has sent more men to the hospital than any other. The full force of the move is concentrated on that small area of the head that comes in contact with the mat. Where that area is located in relation to the spine determines the intensity of the move, and whether the recipient will be potentially crippled or simply stunned. The only defense against the move is to shift one's weight to the rear, as Mark Fleming attempts to do here against Bruiser Brody.

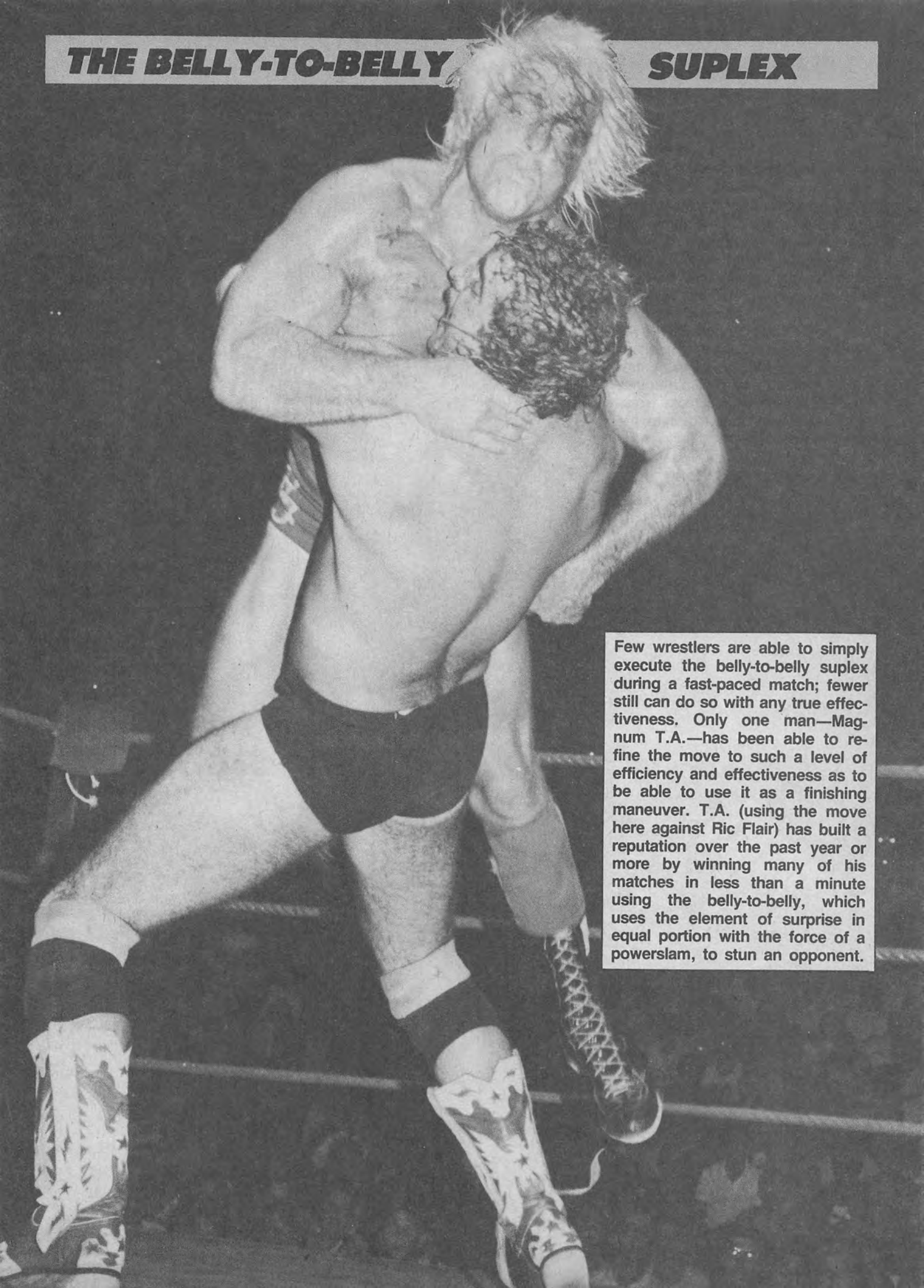
THE SUPERPLEX

The suplex itself is designed to knock the wind out of a man and allow a pinfall. The superplex, ordinarily performed from the middle turnbuckle, multiplies the effects of the suplex by increasing the force that a man's back hits the mat in proportion to the height of the turnbuckle (The British Bulldogs occasionally perform the move from the *top* buckle!) and the speed with which its user falls back. The Super Destroyer (shown here superplexing Iceman King Parsons) is one of the greatest proponents of the maneuver, and has been banned from wrestling in several states due to his frequent use of this dangerous move.



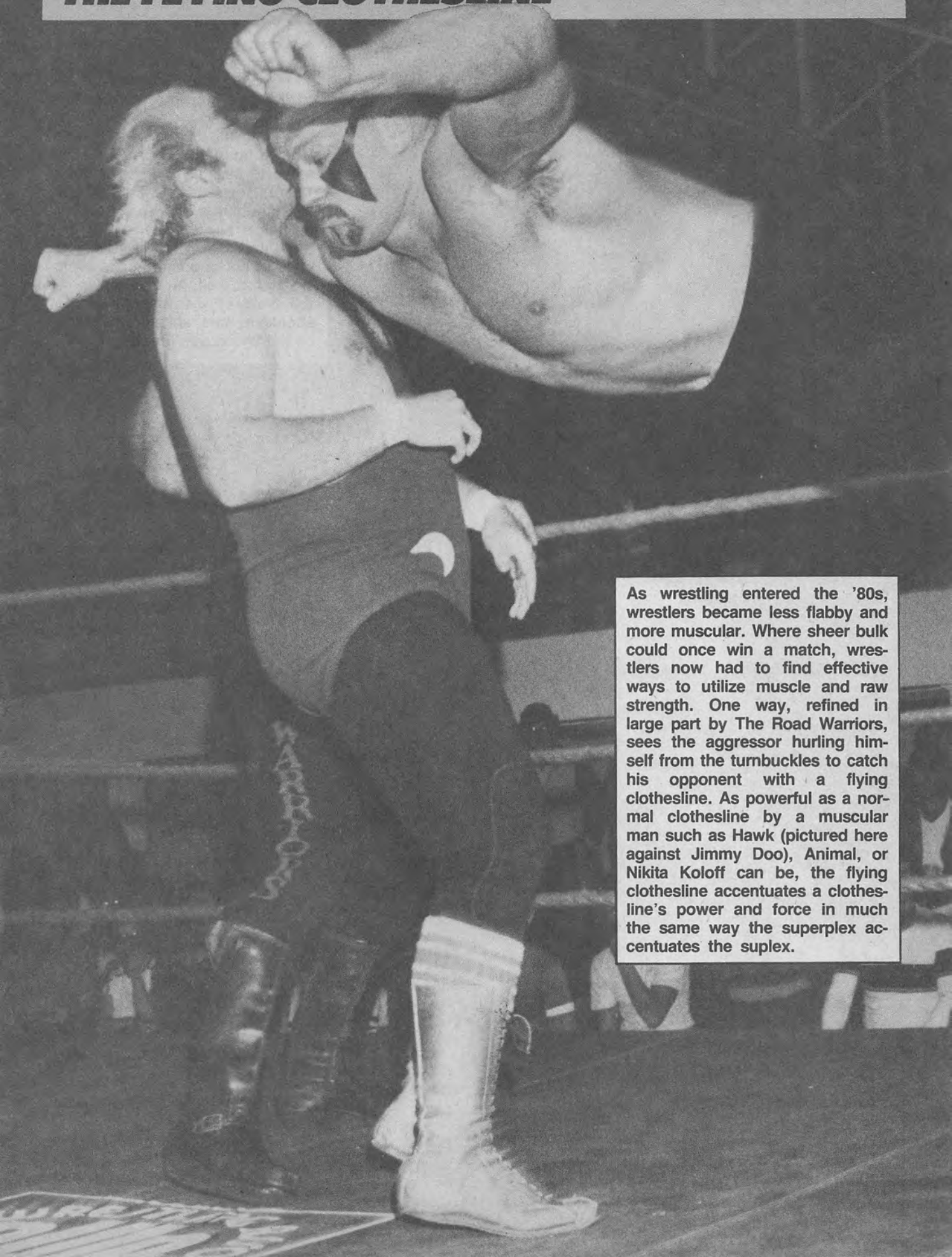
THE BELLY-TO-BELLY

SUPLEX



Few wrestlers are able to simply execute the belly-to-belly suplex during a fast-paced match; fewer still can do so with any true effectiveness. Only one man—Magnum T.A.—has been able to refine the move to such a level of efficiency and effectiveness as to be able to use it as a finishing maneuver. T.A. (using the move here against Ric Flair) has built a reputation over the past year or more by winning many of his matches in less than a minute using the belly-to-belly, which uses the element of surprise in equal portion with the force of a powerslam, to stun an opponent.

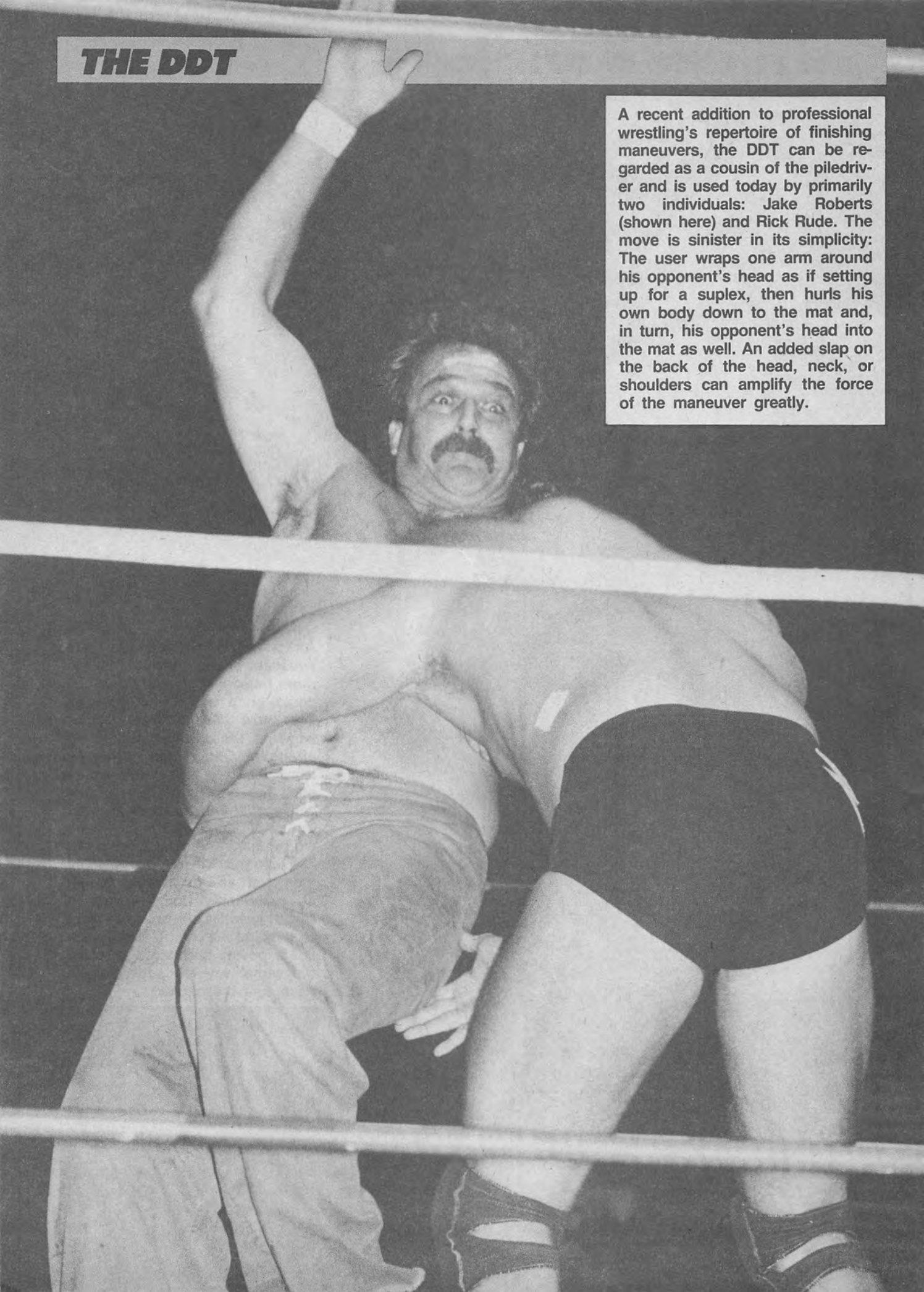
THE FLYING CLOTHESLINE



As wrestling entered the '80s, wrestlers became less flabby and more muscular. Where sheer bulk could once win a match, wrestlers now had to find effective ways to utilize muscle and raw strength. One way, refined in large part by The Road Warriors, sees the aggressor hurling himself from the turnbuckles to catch his opponent with a flying clothesline. As powerful as a normal clothesline by a muscular man such as Hawk (pictured here against Jimmy Doo), Animal, or Nikita Koloff can be, the flying clothesline accentuates a clothesline's power and force in much the same way the superplex accentuates the suplex.

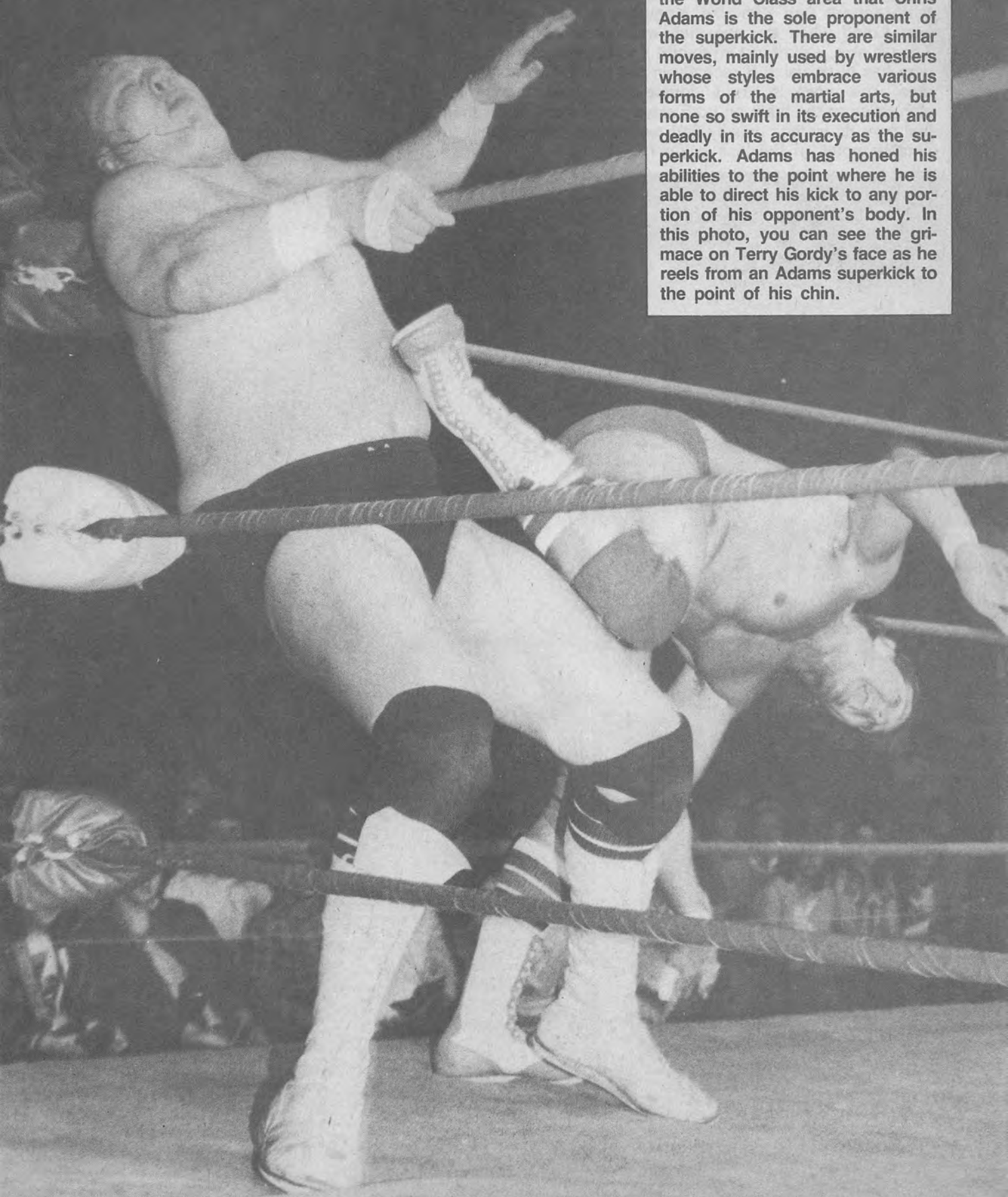
THE DDT

A recent addition to professional wrestling's repertoire of finishing maneuvers, the DDT can be regarded as a cousin of the piledriver and is used today by primarily two individuals: Jake Roberts (shown here) and Rick Rude. The move is sinister in its simplicity: The user wraps one arm around his opponent's head as if setting up for a suplex, then hurls his own body down to the mat and, in turn, his opponent's head into the mat as well. An added slap on the back of the head, neck, or shoulders can amplify the force of the maneuver greatly.



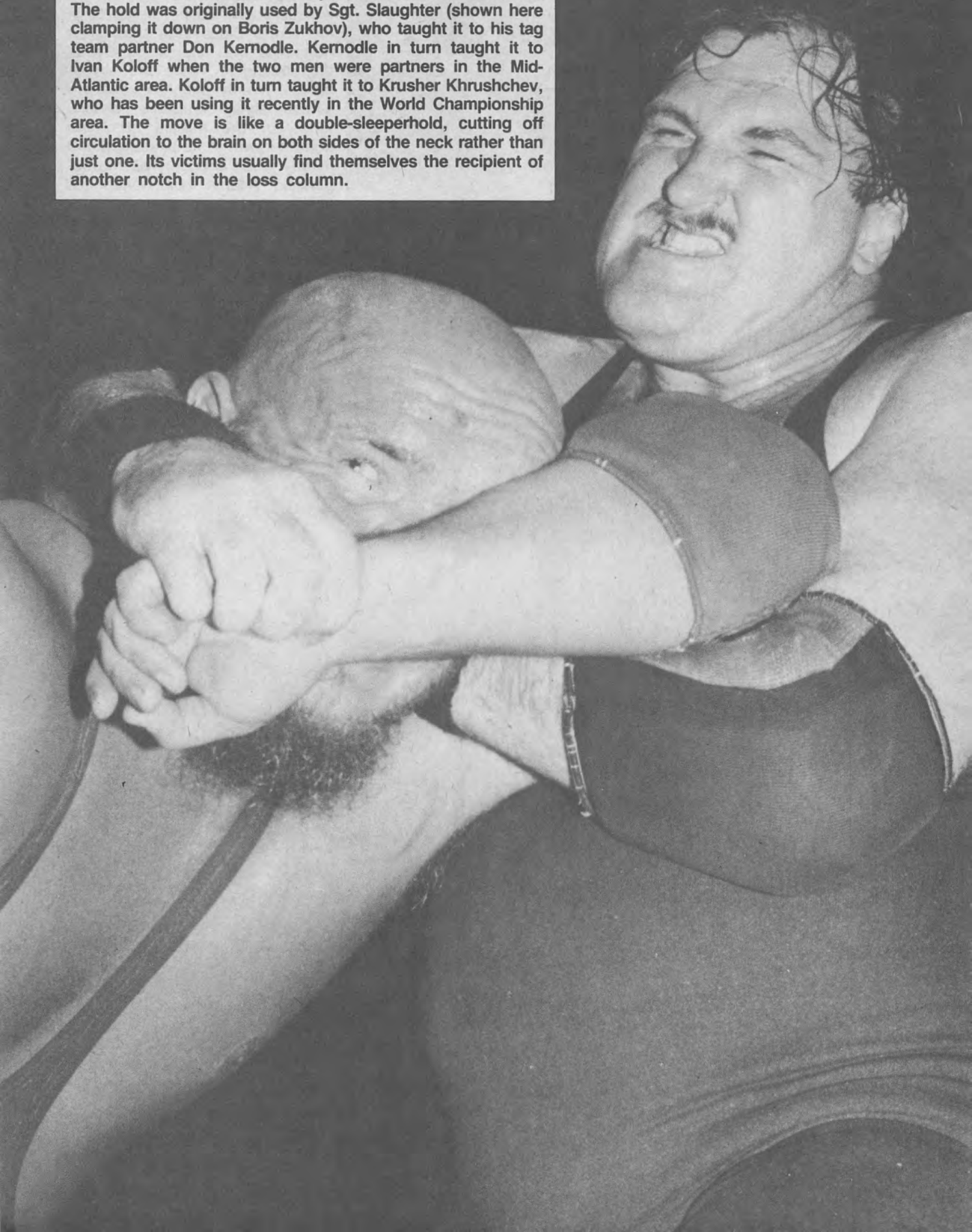
THE SUPERKICK

It is perhaps fortunate for all wrestlers who do not compete in the World Class area that Chris Adams is the sole proponent of the superkick. There are similar moves, mainly used by wrestlers whose styles embrace various forms of the martial arts, but none so swift in its execution and deadly in its accuracy as the superkick. Adams has honed his abilities to the point where he is able to direct his kick to any portion of his opponent's body. In this photo, you can see the grimace on Terry Gordy's face as he reels from an Adams superkick to the point of his chin.



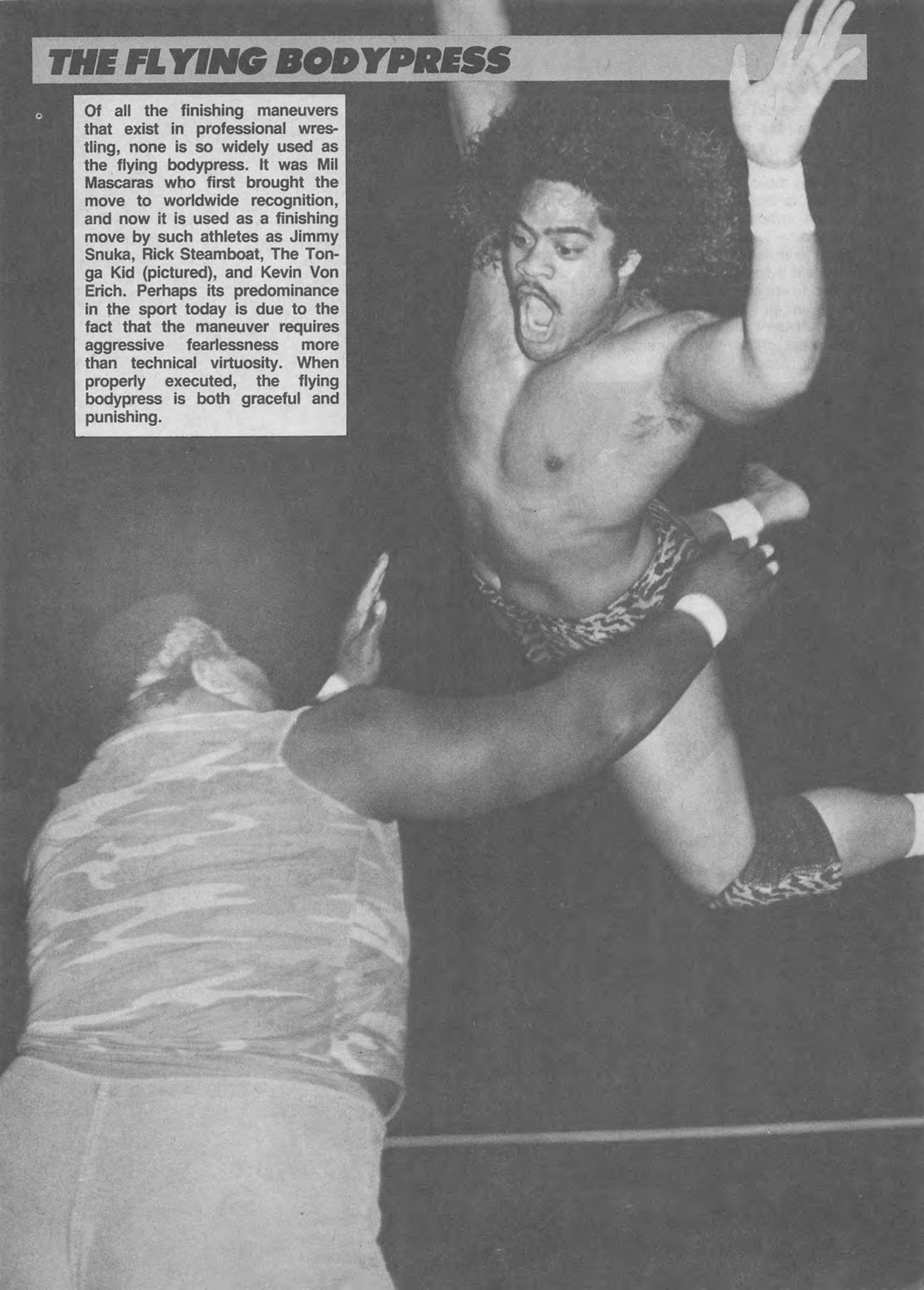
THE COBRA CLUTCH

A curious evolution has taken place with the cobra clutch. The hold was originally used by Sgt. Slaughter (shown here clamping it down on Boris Zukhov), who taught it to his tag team partner Don Kernodle. Kernodle in turn taught it to Ivan Koloff when the two men were partners in the Mid-Atlantic area. Koloff in turn taught it to Krusher Khrushchev, who has been using it recently in the World Championship area. The move is like a double-sleeperhold, cutting off circulation to the brain on both sides of the neck rather than just one. Its victims usually find themselves the recipient of another notch in the loss column.



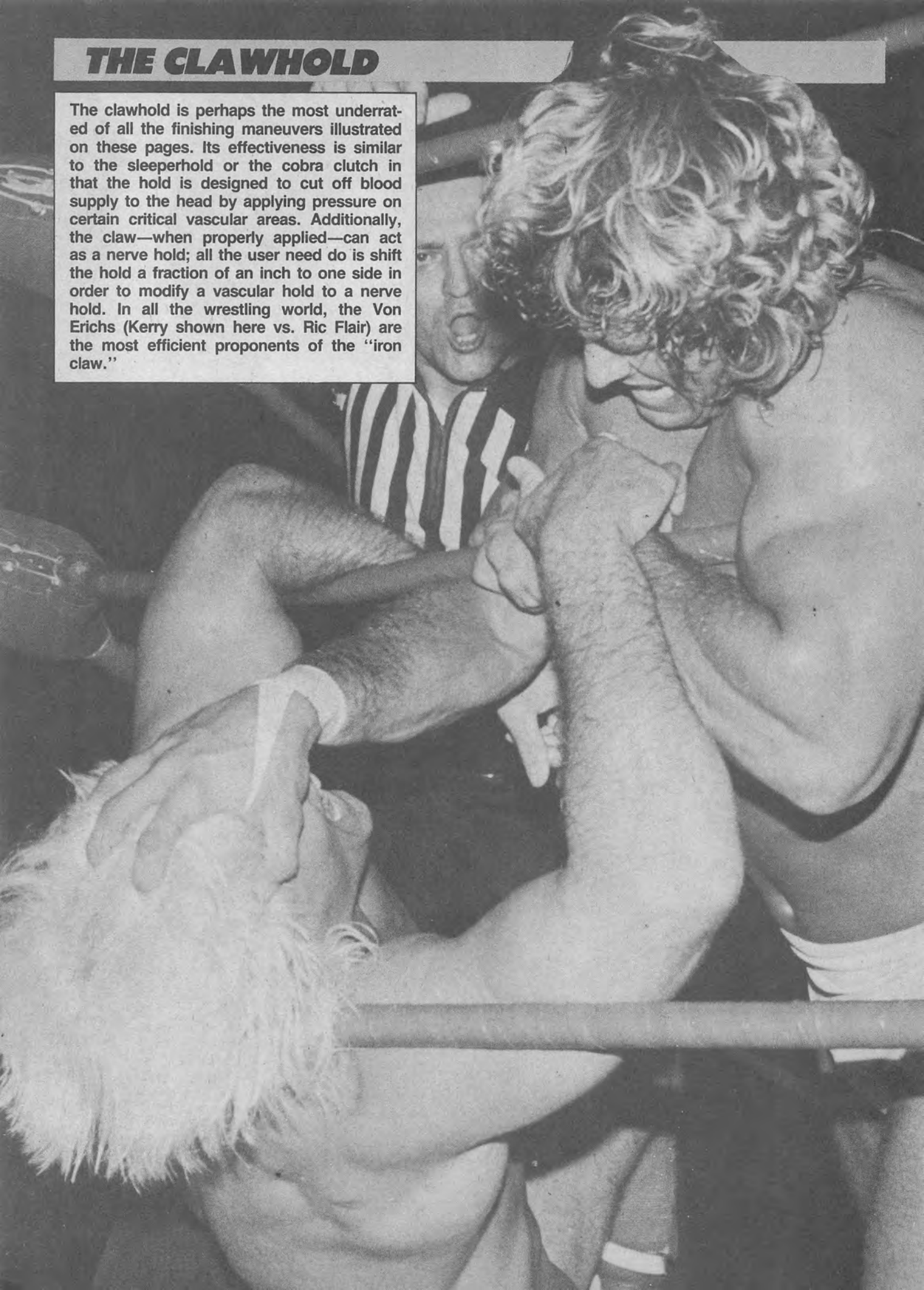
THE FLYING BODYPRESS

Of all the finishing maneuvers that exist in professional wrestling, none is so widely used as the flying bodypress. It was Mil Mascaras who first brought the move to worldwide recognition, and now it is used as a finishing move by such athletes as Jimmy Snuka, Rick Steamboat, The Tonga Kid (pictured), and Kevin Von Erich. Perhaps its predominance in the sport today is due to the fact that the maneuver requires aggressive fearlessness more than technical virtuosity. When properly executed, the flying bodypress is both graceful and punishing.

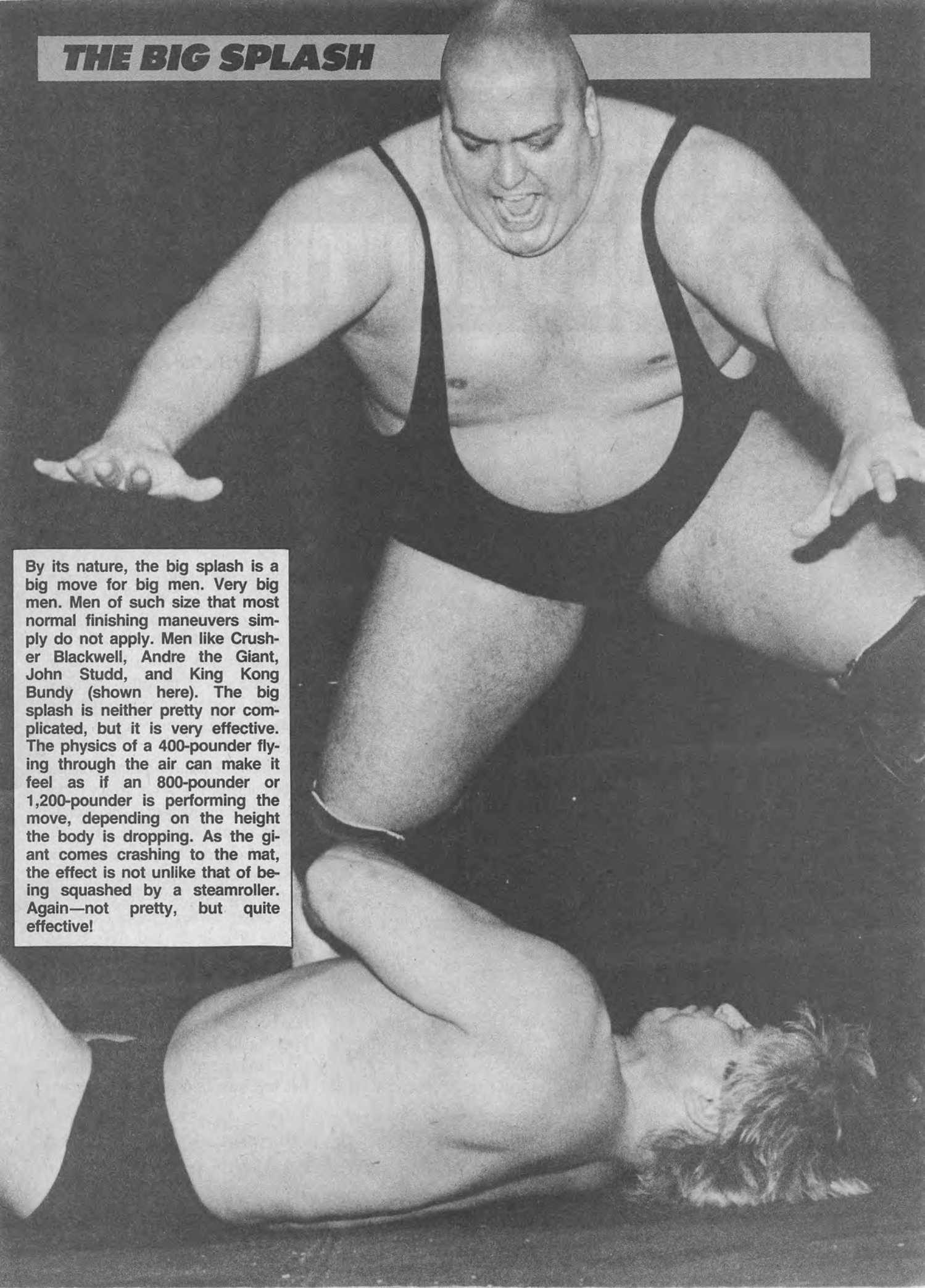


THE CLAWHOLD

The clawhold is perhaps the most underrated of all the finishing maneuvers illustrated on these pages. Its effectiveness is similar to the sleeperhold or the cobra clutch in that the hold is designed to cut off blood supply to the head by applying pressure on certain critical vascular areas. Additionally, the claw—when properly applied—can act as a nerve hold; all the user need do is shift the hold a fraction of an inch to one side in order to modify a vascular hold to a nerve hold. In all the wrestling world, the Von Erichs (Kerry shown here vs. Ric Flair) are the most efficient proponents of the “iron claw.”



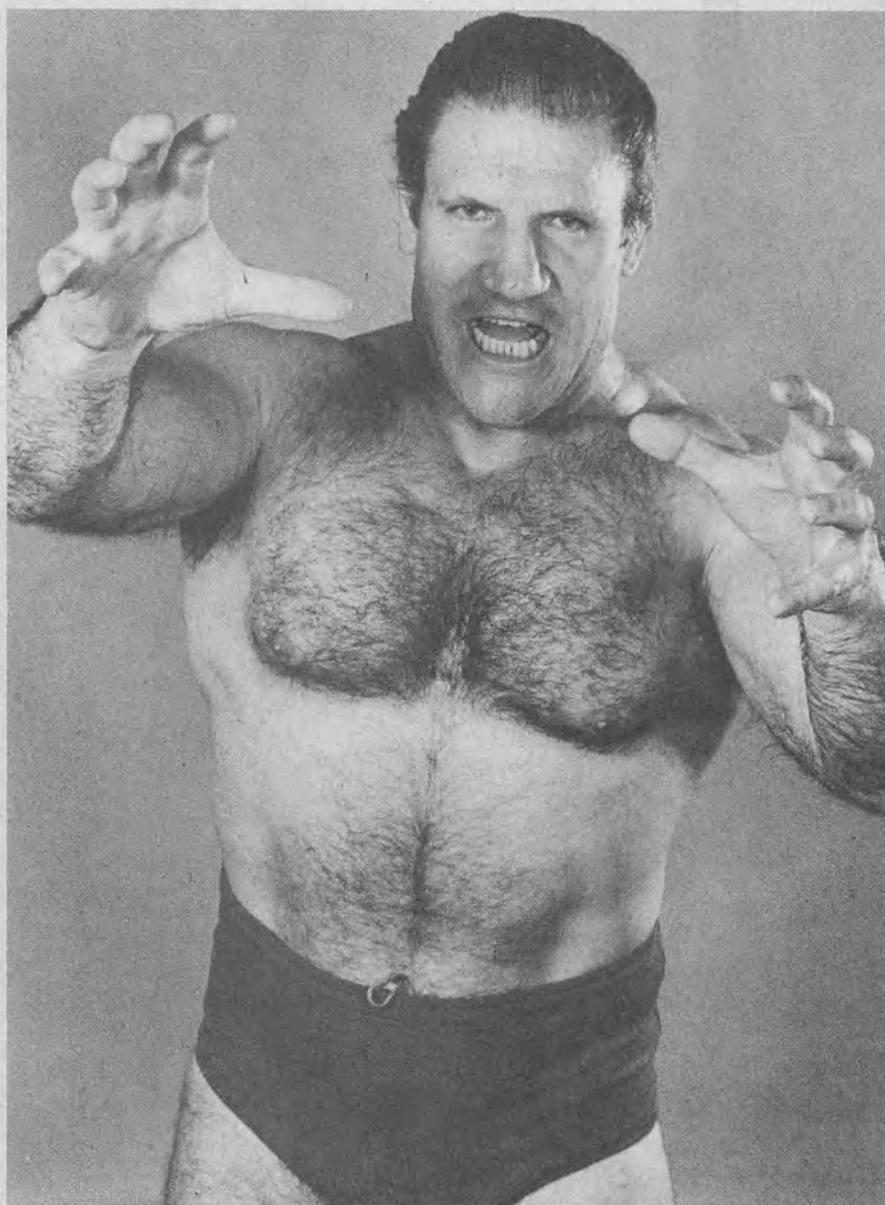
THE BIG SPLASH



By its nature, the big splash is a big move for big men. Very big men. Men of such size that most normal finishing maneuvers simply do not apply. Men like Crusher Blackwell, Andre the Giant, John Studd, and King Kong Bundy (shown here). The big splash is neither pretty nor complicated, but it is very effective. The physics of a 400-pounder flying through the air can make it feel as if an 800-pounder or 1,200-pounder is performing the move, depending on the height the body is dropping. As the giant comes crashing to the mat, the effect is not unlike that of being squashed by a steamroller. Again—not pretty, but quite effective!

Bruno's Back To Stay:

"I'M HERE TO SHUT UP THE LOUDMOUTHS!"



By Bill Apter

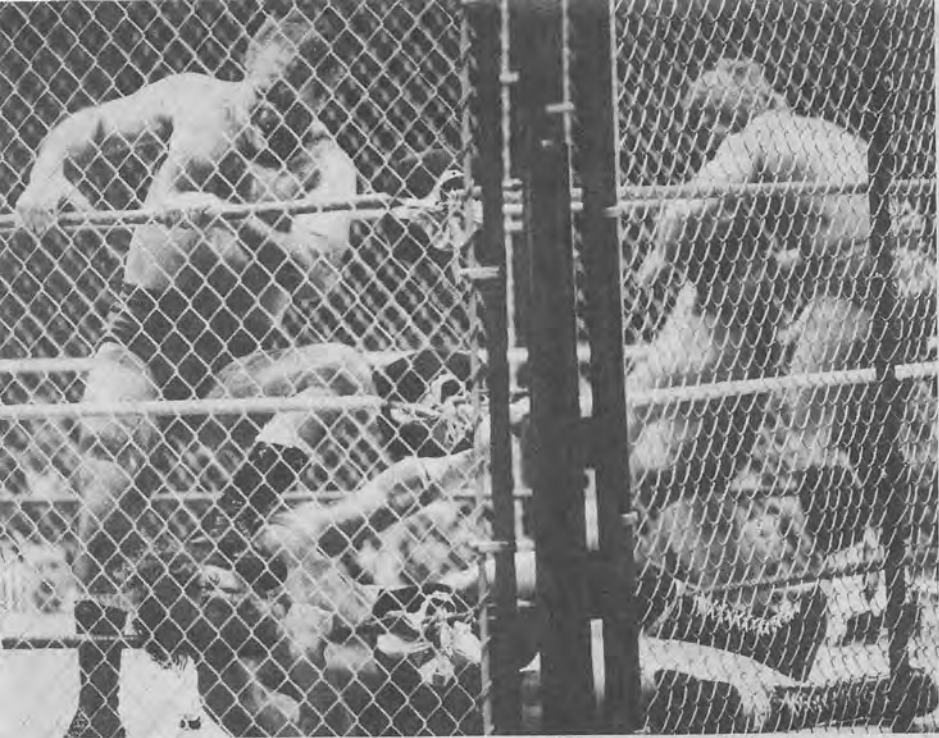
IT WAS A good life for you, Bruno. Retirement meant peace and late sleep.

It meant time for late seven-course evenings at homey restaurants. You didn't have to make the matches by 7:30. It meant time for the workbench and the projects you promised to assemble at your leisure. The homemade grandfather clock for the local PTA. The set of building blocks for your future grandchildren. It meant the lazy winter afternoons in front of the warm brackish colors of the cable television, reclining in your easy chair and languidly pressing buttons on the remote control.

In short, retirement meant a chance to be human for a while. You've been through so many battles and you've bought so many ugly scars. You deserve a respite. You're arguably the most popular champion in wrestling history, and you have the inalienable right to nap the rest of your life away. You've done it all, and God knows what wrestling would be like without you.

But there is more to be done. Your fans beg you to recline on your laurels. Your family begs you to think about your health, and your responsibilities. But hell, you *know* what your respon-

Is Bruno Sammartino's latest comeback no more than an old man's ego trip? Far to the contrary. Bruno is actually one of the few men who still wrestles to combat evil



Bruno felt like he was in a cage during his retirement. He's solved half the problem. Wrestling alongside Paul Omdorff in New Jersey's Byrne Meadowlands Arena, Bruno puts the boot to Cowboy Bob Orton, while his partner takes on Roddy Piper (above). Bruno whips Brutus Beefcake face-first into the turnbuckle (below).



Bruno's massacre of George Steele at the Meadowlands in October 1981 was to have been his last match.



sibilities are. No one can sway your convictions.

You're back in the squared circle, because you cannot rest. You have a job to do. It has to be done.

"What are *you* doing here, Bruno?" The dressing room guard at the Meadowlands Arena remembered the official Sammartino *sayonara* from wrestling five years ago. Bruno had given fearsome George Steele the beating of his life. Unlike so many athletes who chased the power of their youth past its prime, Bruno walked away from the ring victorious, with the self-confidence of triumph twisting his lips into a proud veteran's smile.

Bruno paused at the dressing room entrance. Yes, for a moment he felt silly. A middle-aged man with a gym bag in his hand. Kneepads and a jock-strap, trunks and a freshly laundered pair of white sweat socks. Implements of a youngster, the athletic dressing of salad days.

But Bruno had already contemplated those contradictions, late at night and too damn early over weak coffee. He knew what had to be done. "What am I doing here, friend? I'll tell you. I'm here to stop the loudmouths."

And Bruno slung the heavy gym bag over his shoulder and sauntered toward his dressing room, like a rookie starved for action. Ready for anything and ready to fight for what he believed in.

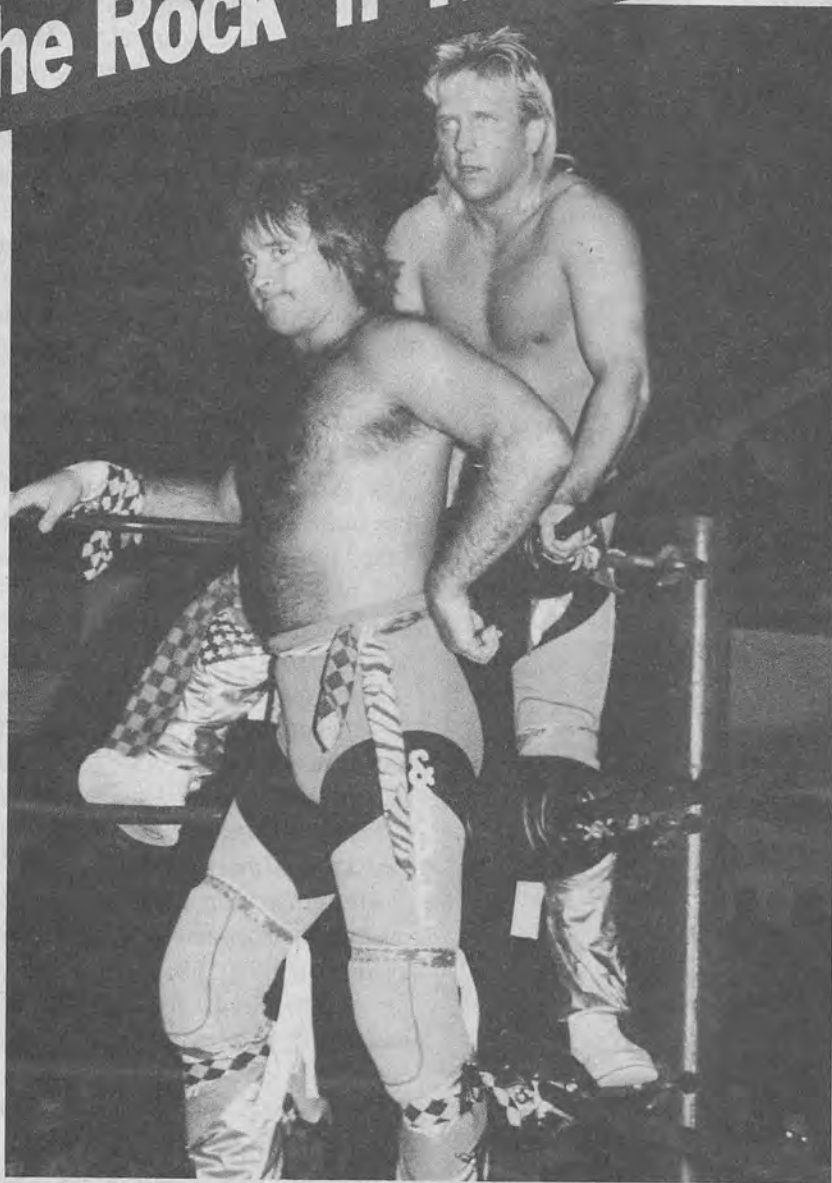
"You know, Bill, you and I both remember the Golden Age of television." I was talking with Bruno before a steel cage match, but we could have been yakking in the living room of his Pittsburgh home. He'd been through the wars, and it didn't matter. The dressing room was *still* as natural as a living room to The Living Legend.

"Without television, wrestling wouldn't have been as successful as it was. When I came over [emigrated to the United States] in the '50s, people were excited about Buddy Rogers and Killer Kowalski and men like that. It gave me the inspiration to go into wrestling, as opposed to running a gymnasium or pumping gas or something like that. Never, never underesti-

(Continued on page 58)

The Rock 'n' Rolls Start Over

Photos by Bill Apter & Floyd See



CAN THEY MAKE IT TO THE TOP AGAIN?

TRYPING TO MAINTAIN a firm grasp on a wrestling championship is like playing a game of King of the Hill.

You know the game: A dozen or so kids find a large mound of dirt somewhere, and the scramble is on to see who can get to the top first. Once someone makes it to the top,

everyone else tries to throw him back down to the bottom of the hill so that one of them can become King of the Hill. Mothers love this game when it comes time to do the laundry.

The Rock 'n' Roll Express have been Kings of the Hill twice already. They scrambled over Ivan

Koloff and Krusher Khrushchev on July 9, 1985, to become NWA World tag team champions. They were pushed down to the bottom of the hill by Ivan and Nikita Koloff on October 13, but rebounded about six weeks later to regain the belts from the Koloffs on November 28 at Starrcade '85.

Excellence. In professional wrestling, the yardsticks of that quality are championship title reigns. The Rock 'n' Roll Express are undoubtedly an excellent tag team—but their reputation will be incomplete until they regain the NWA World tag team belts they've held twice before



Rick Morton forces Dennis Condrey into the corner by the throat (above left). Gibson will roll out of a dropping Bobby Eaton's path at the last instant (above center). Morton levels Eaton with a flying bodypress (above right).



Gibson (background) and Morton perform simultaneous spinecrushers against Condrey and Eaton, respectively (above left). Express manager Jim Cornette drives the handle of his tennis racket into Gibson's ear (above).

Now they're at the bottom of the hill again. The Midnight Express, through the interference of their manager Jim Cornette, captured the title from them on February 2, in Atlanta's Omni. And as Rick Morton and Robert Gibson begin to brush the dirt from themselves and look back to the top of the hill, where Dennis Condrey and Bobby Eaton and Cornette all stand grinning smugly, they find that there are a lot of powerful teams blocking their way to the top:

The Road Warriors. Currently splitting their time between the NWA and the AWA, the Legion of

Doom is presently without a championship—and would certainly like to add the NWA title to their resume. One factor in the Rock 'n' Rolls' favor is that Hawk and Animal are looking to battle the Kolofts and Khrushchev before anyone else. Then again, there may well be some professional jealousy between Paul Ellering and Jim Cornette. Both men manage top tag teams, and both men are intensely prideful. Ellering's 1984 win as *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Manager of the

Year was fated to be but a streak of one, as Cornette captured the honor in 1985. Should Ellering choose to make a determined move toward the NWA tag title, he could effectively tie up the Midnights for months, and shut Morton and Gibson out of the title picture completely.

Dusty Rhodes & Magnum T.A. "America's Team" has remained active, despite Rhodes' feud with Tully Blanchard and Ric Flair and

(Continued on page 52)

Sunshine vs. Missy Hyatt:



THE WAR OF HATRED AND SPITE!

Taking over where Chris Adams and Kevin Von Erich left off, the cat fight between Missy Hyatt and Sunshine can only end in a flurry of broken bodies and twisted faces

By Matt Brock

AS MISSY HYATT traipsed through the International building of the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, her body spoke a simple language, communicated easily to travelers of all flags and dialects.

"I love airports!" she erupted, her lascivious smile colliding with a drawl dipped in Mammy Yokum innocence. One look through her cheerleading photos and this trip would be worth it.

"You meet so many interesting

kinds of people in airports," she fairly shouted, as if encouraging anyone of particular interest to reveal themselves. It should be noted fairly early on that Missy Hyatt will never discover a cure for cancer although she *did* receive a degree from the Hernando Cortez Institute of Sociology and Art, an academy whose endowment will never match Missy's. Editor-in-Chief Peter King sent me here to unravel the sticky web of brutality

that has developed between Missy Hyatt and Sunshine—a war that's been stealing the World Class headlines lately. I bristled at the assignment, considering it frivolous, fluffy and, after a bout of near heroic drinking, told Peter so.

"I understand," he said with an editor's irreverence, "that Missy Hyatt has a thing for older men."

"So you go," I shouted back to Pete, who's all of 34. In the end,



Referee David Manning tries to prevent Hyatt from strangling Sunshine (above left). Sunshine grimaces from the pain of Missy's hammerlock (above right). Missy, receiving encouragement from Johnny Tatum at ringside, is in deep trouble (below).



it was he who dropped me at the airport. Editors are like small children; they always seem to get their way.

But I am not here to extol the obvious physical virtues of Missy Hyatt. It didn't take me but 10 minutes in the American Airlines

baggage claim area to gain insight into the absurdly priggish excesses of Missy Hyatt's vainglory.

As a wrestler, Johnny Tatum may exude stud quality, but, removed from that masculine square, Tatum plays pawn to Missy Hyatt's whims. I've always

stood in awe of people whose self-sufficiency allows them to order others around with abandon. It was with awe and disbelief that I witnessed the following exchange.

"Johnny, *after* you get the luggage, and *after* you pull the car around front, you must hurry to get me into town. My pedicure appointment is for 4:45 and I know Helga—that bitch—will cancel me if I'm even two minutes late."

"No problem, honey. It would sure save us some time, though, if you came out to the lot with me. That way we could just scoot out the exit instead of me having to circle all around the airport."

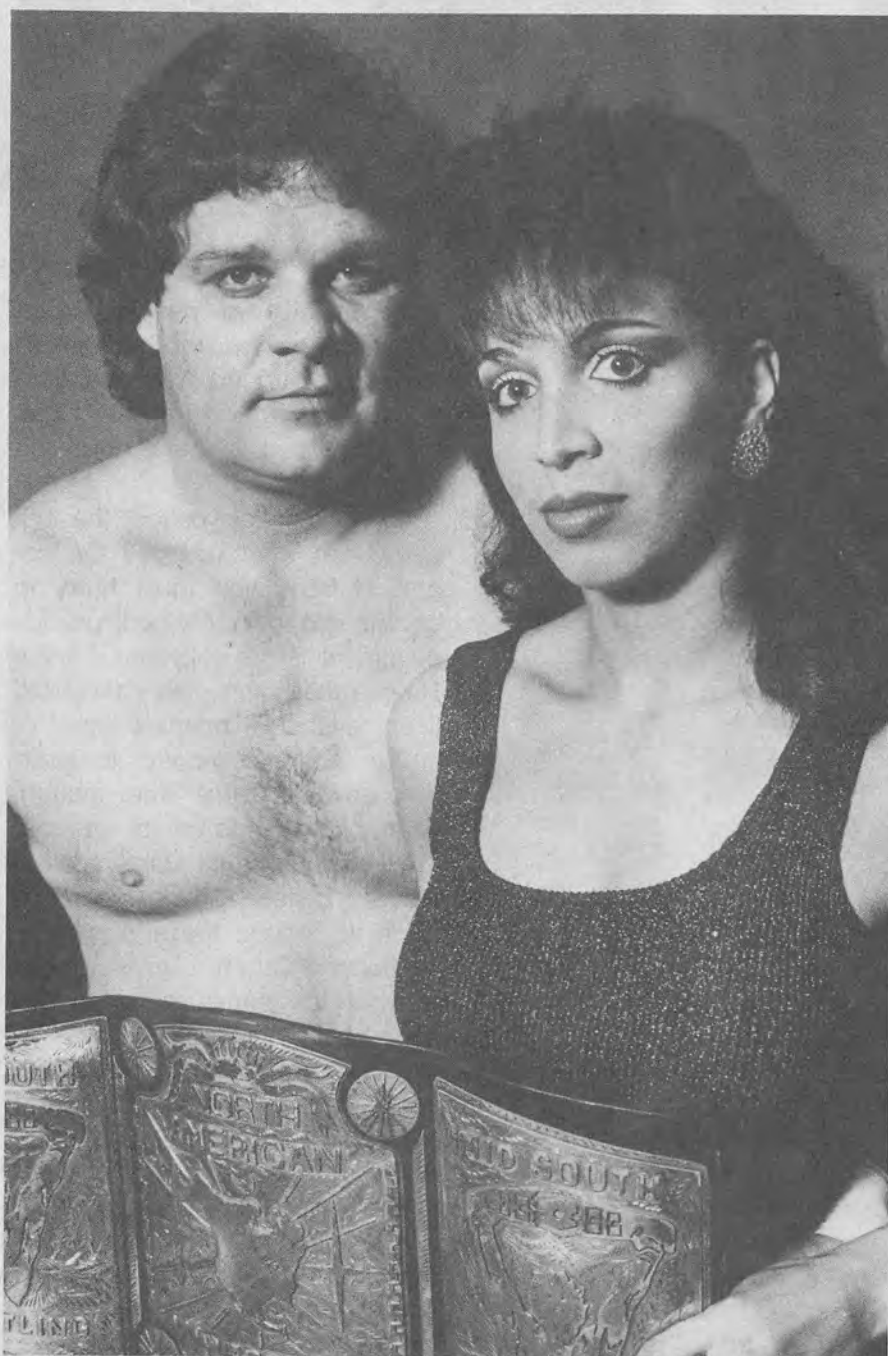
"Johnny Tatum, I am surprised at you! It's humid outside! You know what the humidity does to my hair. You're so inconsiderate sometimes. I don't know how I put up with you. Now get that car. And turn that air-conditioning up."

Missy wheeled and searched my face for . . . empathy? Outrage at Tatum's thoughtlessness? I'm still not certain of the particular emotion I was expected to betray, but failing to find one to suit

(Continued on page 56)

INTERVIEW

DICK SLATER



Although the North American belt is big enough for Dick Slater and Dark Journey to pose behind, it is not big enough for Slater and Jake Roberts to share. The title has officially been held up.

DICK SLATER, the North American champion, signed for a title match with Roberts that had two conditions. Roberts agreed not to use his favorite finishing maneuver, the DDT, if Slater's valet Dark Journey would stay away from ringside. Roberts did use the DDT to set up a successful pin. Both men now claim the North American title, and the Mid-South commissioners don't know quite what to do with the belt.

It must be pointed out that this is only the latest episode in the career of a man who has one of the most bizarre biographies in wrestling. Originally a fuzzy-cheeked scientific hero trained by Eddie Graham in Florida, Slater has shifted ring philosophies with dizzying irregularity. This, coupled with a no-style style that defies consistency, makes him one of the most dangerous and unpredictable grapplers in the sport. He is aptly nicknamed "Mr. Unpredictable"—if any wrestler truly lives for the moment, in and out of the ring, it is Dick Slater.

Sports Review Wrestling Assistant Editor Jim Schuermann recently interviewed Slater and asked him about the chaotic Mid-South situation.

Q: What is the current status of the North American title?

A: You tell me. The lackeys in charge of the Mid-South won't give me the word. All I hear is, it's held up, it's held up. How long are they gonna hold me up for my title? They're chickenshit about making



Slater breaks Roberts' nose with his nonstop pounding (left). "The Snake" slumps to the mat in pain (above).

the right decision. Just goes to show you the double standard.

Q: What double standard?

A: The double standard against the men they call rulebreakers. Roberts violated the terms of the contract. He did exactly what he promised not to do, like a bad little boy, and if he's gonna be rewarded with *my title* like a good little boy, I'm gonna have to send him to his grave without any supper.

Q: Well, whatever they ultimately decide will make wrestling history. Legal scholars are already submitting papers to the journals debating the pros and cons of the "DDT Clause," as it's being referred to. Why did you agree to those terms?

A: Let's get one thing straight, buddy. I can cripple Jake Roberts with or without a special contract. He wouldn't wrestle me unless my woman was banned from ringside, and I was being pressured into givin' the skinny jerk a crack at the belt. If I was gonna cut one of my

arms off as a condition of the match, I wanted to make sure he'd be cuttin' both his feet off in return. The spirit of compromise.

Q: But why did you choose to deprive him of the DDT in particular?

A: Because Jake the Fake is such a one-dimensional wrestler. He fell in love with the DDT a few years ago and now he's hooked. I don't necessarily blame the guy. I use it myself, when I feel like it. It's one of the best ways invented to break a neck real fast and simple like. But his whole strategy—I mean, if the moron *had* a strategy—revolves around the DDT. Every move's a setup for the DDT. He wouldn't know what to do without it—and that's why he got desperate and used it when he realized there wasn't no other way to win.

Q: If Roberts is so predictable with the DDT, how could you have fallen victim to it?

A: I couldn't stop it, and for good reason. There are lots of ways to

defense a DDT, if you know it's coming. You can backdrop the guy, you can leg-trip him out and make him look stupider than he is, or any number of things. But if a guy DDTs you fast enough and you don't have time to stop it, your head's splittin' the canvas no matter what you're thinkin' about on the way down. But Roberts had an unfair advantage because I wasn't prepared for a DDT! When he slapped me in a front facelock, I thought he'd either keep it clenched for a while or try to suplex me. The DDT was outlawed by the terms of our notarized contract, so I wasn't looking for it. Why wasn't he disqualified immediately? A plain case of discrimination against rulebreakers.

Q: The valet issue is one of the most controversial subjects in wrestling today. Tell us what Dark Journey means to you as a valet, and give us some general thoughts on the valet's place in wrestling.

A: Who cares about the other valets? They're all bimbos. Dark Journey is a friend. What's wrong with having friends at ringside? See, that's another thing I can't stand about Roberts. He's one of these guys who plays up the macho mystique, that "man alone" routine. It happens all the time. He gets hurt and embarrassed and he makes out like he hasn't got a friend in the world, so he'll get the fans' sympathy. It's reverse psychology, and it's all calculated. [Ted] DiBiase's doin' the same thing now. Right after Murdoch brainbusted his neck in eight pieces, he moaned about how nobody loved him and nobody cares and darn it, gee whiz, he'd fight everybody alone if he had to. So the fans cheered 'cause they love an underdog. Pretty soon he'll be teaming up with creampuffs like Terry Taylor and Hacksaw Duggan, suckin' up to the fans. Count on it.

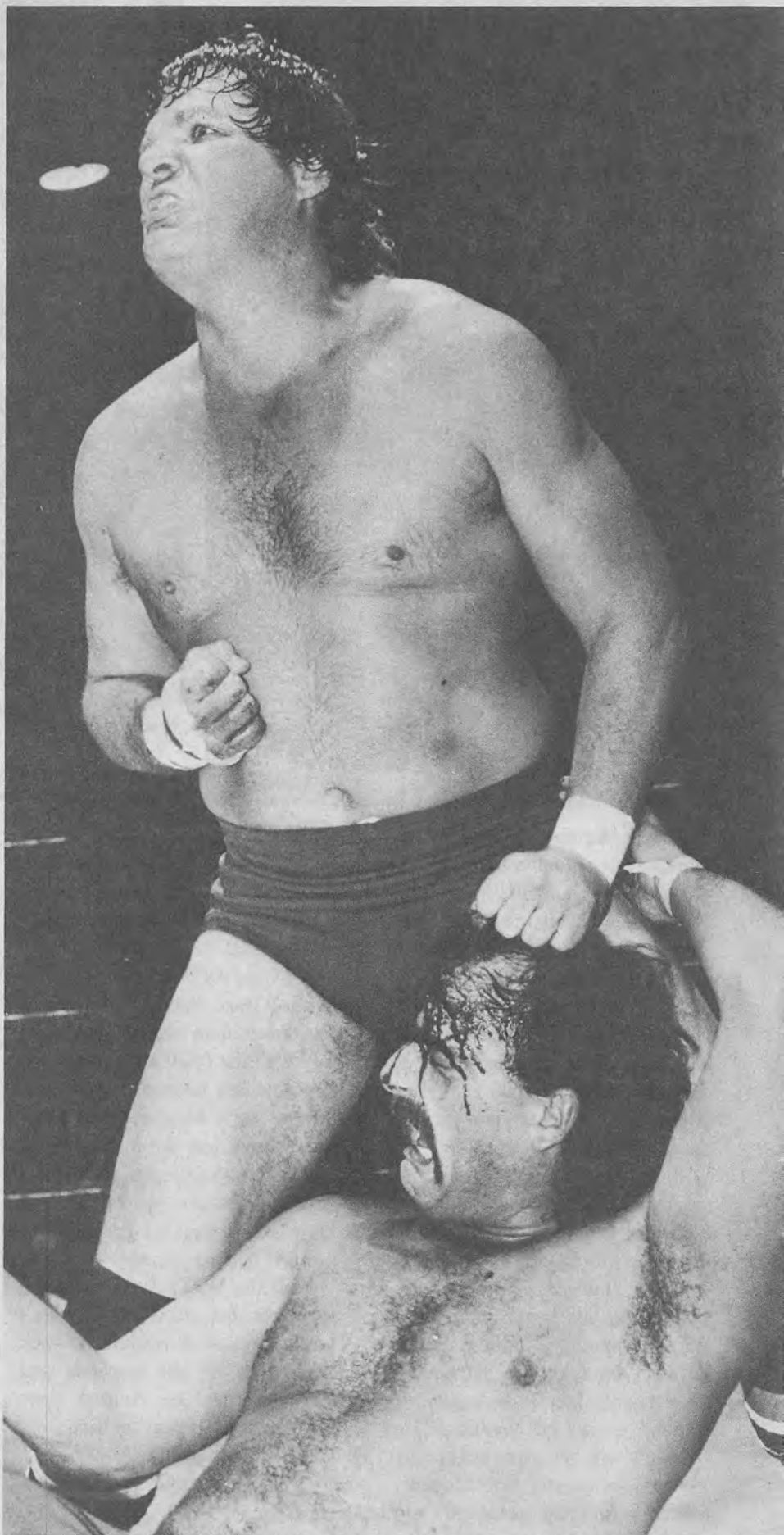
Q: You "sucked up" to the fans *yourself* in the World Championship area for the better part of a year before you came to the Mid-South.

A: They call me Mr. Unpredictable. I wrestled like Dusty Rhodes on purpose in order to fool my adversaries. It didn't work as well as I thought it would. I guess I'm Dirty Dick to the core.

Q: Dark Journey was mistakenly DDT'd by Roberts in one match after you blinded him with ink. Do you worry that by alienating your adversaries, you're putting Dark Journey's curvaceous body on the line?

A: No. She can handle herself. I can't help it if Snake Roberts attacks her for no damn reason. I think that guy ought to see a shrink. I think he's insecure and intimidated by DJ's beauty. To a pervert like Roberts, the only way to say hello to a beautiful woman is to slap her in the face or DDT her into the floor. You know the type.

Q: You seem to win regional titles everywhere you go, but you're rarely
(Continued on page 64)



Slater's fist is stained with blood as he opens a hideous cut on Roberts' forehead. Roberts, Slater says, thrives on the fans' sympathy.

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

Mailbag: Letter of the month comes from Irate Irma Tangellino, poison-penning us from Bensonhurst, New York. After *Dear Ratings Analysis*, Irma's letter blows steam and lots of it.



Tito Santana

For the eighth month in a row Tito Santana is the second-ranked wrestler in the WWF. I know, I know, the Intercontinental champion is automatically rated behind the WWF champion, but it doesn't take a genius to realize that Tito Santana has as much chance of gaining a title shot against Hulk Hogan as Magilla Gorilla. With Randy Savage getting title shots left

and right, not to mention Terry Funk, Magnificent Muraco, John Studd, and others not even in the top 10, isn't it time Tito Santana is reduced in rank? I believe his high ranking makes a mockery out of the whole ratings system. The idea of automatic positioning and automatic title shots is pretty stupid in the first place. A man should earn his rating by defeating all other opposition in the area. All a smart rulebreaker has to do to hasten his climb to the top is defeat Santana. A couple of bucks in the right hands by some unscrupulous manager and the deed is done.

In this month's ratings, Irma, you'll notice that Randy Savage is ranked in the number one challenger's position in the WWF, having defeated Santana for the Intercontinental title in Boston on February 8. Santana plummets to the number four position, while **Junkyard Dog**, who had a clean victory over Savage in Baltimore, vaults into the number two position.

Ratings movement: By virtue of their NWA title-winning triumph over **The Rock 'n' Roll Express**, **Dennis Condrey** and **Bobby Eaton** jump from number 10 in last month's ratings to number two. Robert Gibson and Rick Morton drop to number eight ... **Steve Regal** and **Jim Garvin**, have dropped through the tag team ratings after relinquishing their AWA crowns to **Scott Hall** and **Curt Hennig**. Hall and Hennig take over the number four spot. ... **Tommy Rogers** and **Bobby Fulton** return to the tag team ratings, sneaking in at number 10 ... New to the ratings and appearing this month in the number 10 slots, are: **Adrian Adonis** (WWF), **Jesse Barr** (NWA), **Buddy Roberts**

(World Class) ... The death of **Gino Hernandez** left a gaping hole in the World Class ratings. The injury **Chris Adams** sustained at the hands of Gino shortly before his death has left his career in limbo. At best, doctors are giving Adams a 40 percent chance of regaining partial sight, but doubt whether the Englishman will ever wrestle again ... **Krusher Khrushchev's** nagging leg injury has kept him out of the ring and will keep him out of this month's ratings.

Loose Ends: **Hulk Hogan** remains the number two ranked wrestler in the world despite back-to-back defeats to **Randy Savage**. If anyone saw the condition the "victorious" Savage returned to his dressing room in after his last encounter with Hogan, they would not question Hogan's placement ... **Harley Race** dropped from three to to nine in the NWA ratings, once again giving rise to the rumors of his imminent retirement. Word is that Race spent most of last month tending to his vast business interests, and didn't appear in enough matches to warrant a high rating. Look for the veteran to rebound in the coming months ... **Tom Zenk** comments on his title victory over **Bobby Jagers**: "I've never been better prepared for a match more in my career. I knew what Jagers was going to do before he did. Now if I can just convince **Ric Flair** to come back here" ... **Dick Slater** remains number one in the Mid-South area, although the North American title is being held up following a match with **Jake Roberts** ... Sources in



Dick Slater

Montreal report that **Rick Martel** is readying himself for a series of return bouts against **Stan Hansen**. Martel has expressed a desire to wrestle a scientific match with Americas champion **Sgt. Slaughter** "just to keep me sharp."

The Address: We encourage your correspondence. This month we solicit your opinions on the subject of automatic ratings. For example, should **Randy Savage** be locked into the number one's contender spot in the WWF simply because he is the Intercontinental champion? Send your comments to "Ratings Analysis" c/o *Sports Review Wrestling*, Box 48, Rockville Centre, New York, 11571. □

OFF WRESTLIN

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board.



Sgt. Slaughter

TOP 10

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**HULK HOGAN**
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 3—**STAN HANSEN**
322, Borger, TX
- 4—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 5—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 6—**RANDY SAVAGE**
245, Sarasota, FL
- 7—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX
- 8—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
275, Moscow, Russia
- 9—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 10—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC

TAG TEAMS

- 1—**THE ROAD WARRIORS**
No. 1 contenders to AWA World tag team title
Combined weight: 567 pounds
- 2—**DENNIS CONDREY & BOBBY EATON**
NWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 472 pounds
- 3—**GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**
WWF World tag team champions
Combined weight: 511 pounds
- 4—**SCOTT HALL & CURT HENNIG**
AWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 525 pounds
- 5—**IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF**
No. 2 contenders to NWA tag team title
Combined weight: 524 pounds
- 6—**STEVE WILLIAMS & TED DIBIASE**
Mid-South tag team champions
Combined weight: 542 pounds
- 7—**DYNAMITE KID & DAVEY BOY SMITH**
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title
Combined weight: 461 pounds
- 8—**RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON**
No. 1 contenders to NWA tag team title
Combined weight: 453 pounds
- 9—**KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH**
No. 1 contenders to World Class tag team title
Combined weight: 499 pounds
- 10—**TOMMY ROGERS & BOBBY FULTON**
Mid-Southern tag team champions
Combined weight: 462 pounds

NWA, AWA, and WWF ratings, in addition to the regional ratings from around the country, are based on the official current position of challengers to the top title in each category. (Certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings). Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and mail that comes to our offices.

NWA

World Champion:
RIC FLAIR

243, Minneapolis, MN

- 1—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 2—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 3—**RONNIE GARVIN**
231, Montreal, Quebec
- 4—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
275, Moscow, Russia
- 5—**WAHOO McDANIEL**
260, Midland, TX
- 6—**DICK SLATER**
235, Tampa, FL
- 7—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 8—**BARRY WINDHAM**
236, Sweetwater, TX
- 9—**HARLEY RACE**
253, Kansas City, MO
- 10—**JESSE BARR**
243, Portland, OR

AWA

World Champion:
STAN HANSEN

322, Borger, TX

- 1—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC
- 2—**RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 3—**LARRY ZBYSKO**
248, Pittsburgh, PA
- 4—**NICK BOCKWINKEL**
245, Beverly Hills, CA
- 5—**SCOTT HALL**
290, Minneapolis, MN
- 6—**THE BARBARIAN**
316, parts unknown
- 7—**BORIS ZUKHOV**
254, Leningrad, Russia
- 8—**GREG GAGNE**
220, Robbinsdale, MN
- 9—**CURT HENNIG**
235, Minneapolis, MN
- 10—**JERRY BLACKWELL**
474, Stone Mountain, GA

WWF

World Champion:
HULK HOGAN

302, Venice Beach, CA

- 1—**RANDY SAVAGE**
245, Sarasota, FL
- 2—**JUNKYARD DOG**
260, New Orleans, LA
- 3—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI
- 4—**TITO SANTANA**
245, Mission, TX
- 5—**PAUL ORNDORFF**
253, Brandon, FL
- 6—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**
274, Sunset Beach, HA
- 7—**TERRY FUNK**
247, Amarillo, TX
- 8—**HILLBILLY JIM**
282, Mud Lick, KY
- 9—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Scotland
- 10—**ADRIAN ADONIS**
303, New York, NY

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 2—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 3—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
- 4—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
275, Moscow, Russia
- 5—**RONNIE GARVIN**
231, Montreal, Quebec
- 6—**SAM HOUSTON**
218, Waco, TX
- 7—**SUPERSTAR GRAHAM**
260, Paradise Valley, AZ
- 8—**KONGA THE BARBARIAN**
265, Chicago, IL
- 9—**JIMMY VALIANT**
251, New York, NY
- 10—**BARON VON RASCHKE**
271, East Germany

CIAL G RATINGS

WORLD CLASS

- 1—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 2—**THE GRAPPLER**
241, parts unknown
- 3—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX
- 4—**KEVIN VON ERICH**
239, Denton, TX
- 5—**BRUISER BRODY**
284, Albuquerque, NM
- 6—**LANCE VON ERICH**
260, Dallas, TX
- 7—**THE MISSING LINK**
273, parts unknown
- 8—**BRIAN ADIDAS**
238, Denton, TX
- 9—**ICEMAN PARSONS**
242, St. Louis, MO
- 10—**BUDDY ROBERTS**
247, Del City, OK

MID-SOUTH

- 1—**DICK SLATER**
235, Tampa, FL
- 2—**JAKE ROBERTS**
243, Baton Rouge, LA
- 3—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**
280, Glens Falls, NY
- 4—**DICK MURDOCH**
270, Waxahachie, TX
- 5—**TERRY TAYLOR**
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 6—**STEVE WILLIAMS**
265, Tulsa, OK
- 7—**TED DiBIASE**
247, Omaha, NB
- 8—**BUZZ SAWYER**
240, St. Petersburg, FL
- 9—**BRETT SAWYER**
242, St. Petersburg, FL
- 10—**TARRAS BULBA**
237, Outer Mongolia

FLORIDA

- 1—**JESSE BARR**
243, Portland, OR
- 2—**KENDALL WINDHAM**
220, Sweetwater, TX
- 3—**LEX LUGAR**
280, Chicago, IL
- 4—**BARRY WINDHAM**
236, Sweetwater, TX
- 5—**KEVIN SULLIVAN**
239, Boston, MA
- 6—**BLACKJACK MULLIGAN**
310, Sweetwater, TX
- 7—**MAHA SINGH**
273, Tampa, FL
- 8—**MIKE GRAHAM**
229, Tampa, FL
- 9—**WAHOO McDANIEL**
260, Midland, TX
- 10—**TYREE PRIDE**
231, Haiti

MID-SOUTHERN

- 1—**BILL DUNDEE**
214, Melbourne, Australia
- 2—**DUTCH MANTEL**
242, Bucksnorth, TN
- 3—**BUDDY LANDELL**
236, Los Angeles, CA
- 4—**RICK CASEY**
239, San Antonio, TX
- 5—**AUSTIN IDOL**
240, Las Vegas, NV
- 6—**PHIL HICKERSON**
257, Jackson, TN
- 7—**LARRY HAMILTON**
232, Tampa, FL
- 8—**BILLY TRAVIS**
225, Lexington, KY
- 9—**FRANK MORRELL**
240, Nashville, TN
- 10—**TOJO YAMAMOTO**
230, Tokyo, Japan

CONTINENTAL

- 1—**ROBERT FULLER**
238, Dyresburg, TN
- 2—**NORVELL AUSTIN**
239, Pensacola, FL
- 3—**ROBERTO SOTO**
231, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 4—**BRAD ARMSTRONG**
226, Marietta, GA
- 5—**EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET**
227, South Wales
- 6—**TOMMY RICH**
238, Hendersonville, TN
- 7—**TIM HORNER**
235, Morristown, TN
- 8—**MR. OLYMPIA**
245, parts unknown
- 9—**RON FULLER**
275, Knoxville, TN
- 10—**JOHNNY RICH**
232, Hendersonville, TN

NORTHWEST

- 1—**TOM ZENK**
237, Robbinsdale, MN
- 2—**BOBBY JAGGERS**
265, Dunlap, KS
- 3—**BILLY JACK HAYNES**
245, Portland
- 4—**RIP OLIVER**
245, Tampa, FL
- 5—**MEGA MAHARISHI**
260, Portland, OR
- 6—**MIKE MILLER**
260, Memphis, TN
- 7—**MOONDOG MORETTI**
245, Boise, ID
- 8—**GARY ROYAL**
231, Kansas City, MO
- 9—**BRADY BOONE**
236, Charlotte, NC
- 10—**BILLY TWO EAGLES**
223, San Antonio, TX

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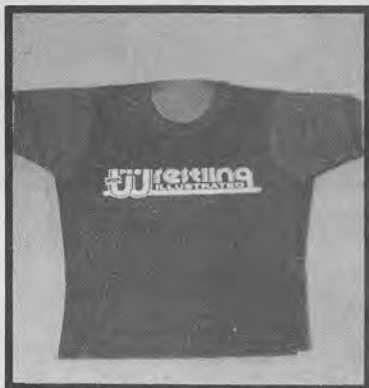
- 1—**HULK HOGAN**
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 3—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX
- 4—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 5—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI
- 6—**KEVIN VON ERICH**
239, Denton, TX
- 7—**TITO SANTANA**
245, Mission, TX
- 8—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**
280, New York, NY
- 9—**BARRY WINDHAM**
236, Sweetwater, TX
- 10—**HILLBILLY JIM**
282, Mud Lick, KY

MOST HATED

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**RANDY SAVAGE**
245, Sarasota, FL
- 3—**DICK MURDOCH**
270, Waxahachie, TX
- 4—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**
274, Sunset Beach, HI
- 5—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
276, Moscow, Russia
- 6—**STAN HANSEN**
322, Borger, TX
- 7—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
- 8—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Glasgow, Scotland
- 9—**DICK SLATER**
235, Tampa, FL
- 10—**TERRY FUNK**
247, Amarillo, TX

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MAILBAG

(Continued from page 6)

modeling. My job used to be the most important thing in my life until I read last month's story. You, Jesse Ventura, have become the centerpiece of my existence.

I believe in the stars, Jesse, and I have been told that 1986 will bring forth changes. I will meet a loving soul who needs and wants my love. I have sent you my number, address, and resume for work. Please, Jesse, for your sake, as well as mine, get in touch with me.

CINDY WILSON
Centerville, OH

PEN PALS

This letter is to Barry Windham, in response to his story in the March 1986 issue of *Sports Review Wrestling* entitled "I Can Save Maha Singh!"

I have never seen Maha Singh wrestle, though I have seen pictures and read articles documenting his sudden decline into Satanism. I agree with you, Barry, he needs help. If he really believes in the dark preachings of Satan and Kevin Sullivan, he's in more trouble than I thought.

But I believe that there is a certain amount of good in every person, no matter how far they may have strayed. If you can re-ignite that ember of good in Maha Singh, you'll have a friend who will stick by you for life. Let caution rule your actions, though. If he were to gain your trust and join your family, he could, in a moment of confusion, turn on you and your brother and father and permanently disable you. I wouldn't put it past him. It's your job, should you decide to accept it, to ensure that his anger and frustration be focused upon the man who fashioned his godless image, Kevin Sullivan.

It's a difficult task, but you're a tough cowboy. I believe you can do it, Barry. Good Luck.

WINDY PAM FELD
Parkton, MD

(Continued on page 49)

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THIS MONTH IN...



THE Wrestler



Will there be a **VON ERICH** family feud? Is **LANCE** coming between **KERRY** and **KEVIN**? Read this story and find out!



After the showdown there's no hoedown—**THE HILLBILLIES** take on **BRUTUS BEEFCAKE** and **GREG VALENTINE**

PLUS . . .

TTTO SANTANA takes on **JESSE VENTURA** . . . Learn why **LARRY ZBYSZKO** says **STAN HANSEN** would tear **SCOTT HALL** apart . . . **BUTCH REED** says: "I wrestle clean, and they do me dirty!" . . . Q & A interview with **KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV**

All this and much more . . .
in the May 1986 issue of
The Wrestler

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RANDY SAVAGE proves that Hulkamania is dead—will WrestleMania II make **HULK HOGAN** more popular than ever before?



TULLY BLANCHARD brutalizes "The American Dream"—where was **BABY DOLL** when **DUSTY RHODES** needed her most?

PLUS . . .

A sensational full-color pinup of **KEVIN VON ERICH** . . . Read why **CHRIS ADAMS** says: "Being blinded has opened my eyes!" . . . Find out why **JIM DUGGAN** is wrestling's most underrated superstar . . . Exclusive *PWI* "Scouting Reports" on six top stars

All this and much more . . .
in the June 1986 issue of
Pro Wrestling Illustrated

ON SALE MARCH 25!

MAILBAG

(Continued from page 47)

MILITARY STRIFE

The introduction to the interview with Sgt. Slaughter in March '86's *Sport Review Wrestling* was right in saying that "Slaughter will be remembered more for the ability to motivate than for the possession of any wrestling skills." Slaughter has always carefully draped the flag over his outstand-



Sgt. Slaughter hides behind the American flag and does not have the skills to justify his high ranking, writes Andrew Carlan.

ing lack of talent. In the ring, he's nothing but a beefy puncher—granted, when he connects, his punch packs some wallop—but he has always remained foreign to the science of his sport.

The sport of wrestling doesn't need another big talker in the ring. What it needs is more grapplers with the necessary skills to thrill the fans. Iran is out of the headlines and there are no Libyan assassins stalking our wrestling rings. Sgt. Slaughter should do a flying bodypress off his soapbox and get on with the real business of wrestling.

ANDREW CARLAN
San Bernadino, CA □

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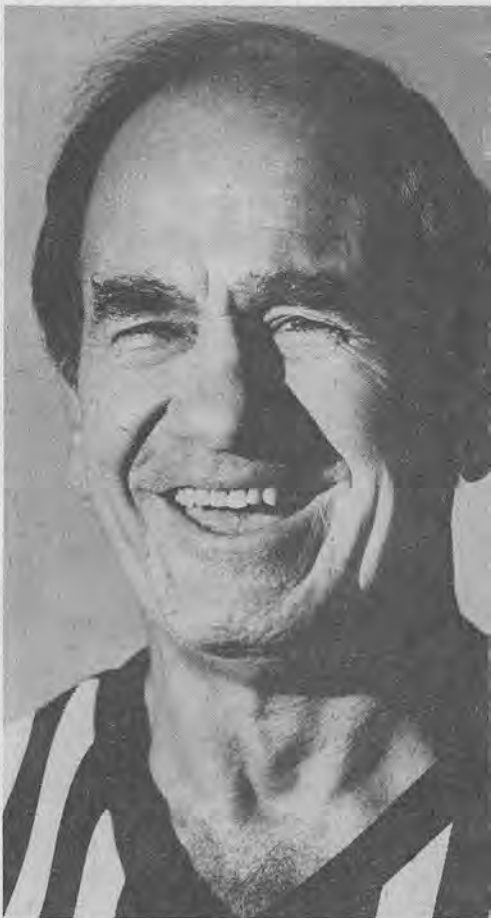
SPRING/86

INQUIRING REPORTER

(Continued from page 10)

dictator of a commissioner won't be able to put wrestling's problems to sleep!"

Lani Blackwell, Lee's Summit, MO: "Wrestling demands a commissioner. We need someone to take a broad general perspective of the sport. The only



Six-time NWA World champion Lou Thesz would be the leading candidate to fulfill the role as Commissioner of Wrestling, according to Lani Blackwell.

question is, 'Who would it be?' I nominate Lou Thesz as the most logical choice. He's been around long enough to know where the bodies are buried, but he's no rulebreaker. Other nominees I'd accept would include Gene Kiniski, Gordon Solie, Shohei Baba, and the incorruptible referee, Dick Woherle."

Mohammad Al-Qawi, San Francisco, CA: "Yes, yes, yes! Wrestling needs a commissioner more than any other

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sport. Wrestlers have no unions, and rival promoters have no revenue-sharing plan. Nobody scratches each other's back. The lack of health insurance and a pension plan for professional wrestlers is a national crime. Appointing a commissioner would be the first step in bringing professional wrestling into the 20th century, where it belongs."

George Innis, Waycross, GA: "It's a dream, baby. Wrestling promoters are too greedy to agree about a commissioner. If they chose a commissioner, he'd be a blockhead who tried to take orders from everybody and couldn't decide for himself. There are too many vested interests involved. The powers that be in wrestling just aren't mature enough to accept a strong commissioner. The first time he or she comes up with a controversial decision, the promoters will object. And the fans will suffer for it, since they have never had a true voice."

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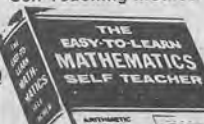
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ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS

(Continued from page 37)

T.A.'s battles with Blanchard and Arn Anderson. Now that the Rhodes-Flair and T.A.-Blanchard feuds seem to be winding down, the time is ripe for "America's Team" to move full force into regular tag team competition, and there's no better target for them than the Midnighters and the NWA World tag title. As with the Warriors, a concerted effort by Rhodes and Magnum would help shut Morton and Gibson out of the title picture, forcing them to wrestle that much harder to achieve a number one contender's spot.

The Russians. It seems that when Ivan and Nikita Koloff and Krusher Khrushchev aren't wrestling The Road Warriors, they're wrestling The Rock 'n' Roll Express. The Russians would still love to see Morton and Gibson crippled for life, and will attempt to do so at any opportunity. For the Rock 'n' Rollers to move into the number one contention spot, they will have to be able to overcome the challenge of the Russian triumverate.

Others. Contracts are flying everywhere in the NWA, and negotiations are on to bring into regular or semi-regular competition such teams as The Fabulous Ones, The Fantastics, Steve Williams and Ted DiBiase, and the Shepherders. Additionally, recent months have seen such pairings in the NWA as The Italian Stallion and Don Kernodle, Superstar Graham and Jimmy Valiant, Black Bart and Konga the Barbarian, and Sam Houston and Ronnie Garvin. Despite your opinion of the effectiveness of these teams or their potential longevity, the fact remains that they are also a part of the NWA tag title picture, and as such must either be dealt with by the Midnighters (which would mean one less available title shot for Morton and Gibson), or by the Rock 'n' Rollers themselves.

"We don't care *what* teams, or



Beautiful Bobby and Loverboy Dennis manhandle a thoroughly exhausted Morton. The Rock 'n' Roll Express know that there are large obstacles in their path back to championship.

how many of them, are standing between us and the NWA World tag title," enthuses Rick Morton, "because we *will* regain the belts a third time."

Morton's boasting may simply be knee-jerk hyperbole. As we go to press, the Rock 'n' Rollers are scheduled to be splitting their time between the World Championship and Mid-South areas. Perhaps Morton and Gibson feel that they need to regroup themselves before making a sustained challenge against the Midnighters. Or perhaps they're feeling weary as they look to the top of the hill from the bottom of the ladder.

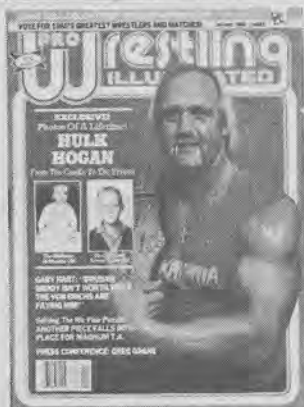
Can The Rock 'n' Roll Express regain the NWA World tag belts and once again ride high atop the tag team ratings? Absolutely. But it will take a lot of hard work and determination.

And as fans of the Rock 'n' Roll Express well know, those are two qualities that Morton and Gibson are certainly not lacking. □

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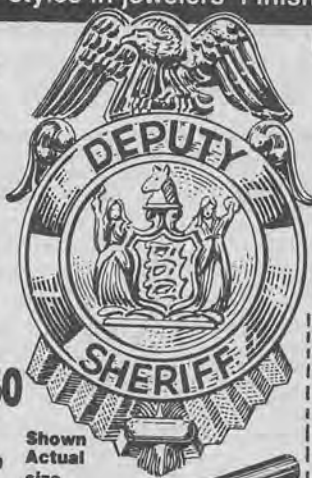
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WE ACCUSE

(Continued from page 12)

and made a mockery of the rules.

Additionally, we also hold liable the NWA governing body for permitting loopholes in their existing laws that allow Cornette—and malignant dozens like him—to routinely possess weaponry of all shapes and nefarious sizes.

Specifically, we point to the recent NWA title match between The Midnight and Rock 'n' Roll Express, a match laden with abominable controversy. Knowing the participants, the result is hardly a surprise. Cornette applied the decisive blow to Morton with his racket, then placed his man Eaton atop Morton, then dragged the referee—who had been knocked from the ring previously—back into the ring to make the count.

Recently voted manager of the year by the readers of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, Cornette assured the fans upon receiving the award that The Midnight Express would seize the NWA tag team title via a strategic blend of science and skill before the end of 1986.

Sporting a smile betraying the joke he played on the wrestling world, Cornette fronted a press conference after The Midnight Express' title victory. "I told you so," he smirked, playfully whipping air with the infamous racket. "And it didn't even take as long as I thought it would."

Cornette responded to reporters accusations that if it weren't for his scheming mind and loaded tennis racket, both he and The Midnight Express would be filling up prelim space in Yaphank, with a smile and a simile. "We are like the ocean," Cornette jowled, but failed to explain the obscure analogy. "To the winners go the spoils," he continued, and the meaning of that cliché became apparent when Cornette waved a contract in his hand. "This is our new contract. As champions, our take immediately goes up 25 percent and we have first refusal on opponents. Ya gotta love it."

To allow the gloat of Jim Cornette to remain unchecked is a kick in the face of every rule-abiding wrestler in

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the NWA domain. Rumor of Cornette's interference should be sufficient enough to have him removed from ringside during the Express' matches. At the very least, the NWA should kill his Jimmy Connors imitation, before Cornette's racket fatally injures an opponent.

What the editors of *Sports Review Wrestling* cannot understand, is the flagrant leeway Cornette has been given to flout the rules. NWA officials have never fined or suspended Cornette for interference; NWA laboratories have never analyzed the contents of Cornette's racket.

Dr. Anson Terrier, chief technician for the NWA lab, remains surprised at his employer's indecisiveness. "We never ask for equipment. It requires a written memo from [NWA President] Bob Geigel, or someone acting on the authority of Geigel—for us to impound anything from a wrestler or manager. In my 16 years here, we've tested everything from Dusty Rhodes' boots to Wahoo McDaniel's war paint. Something as obvious as Cornette's racket we expected long ago. I'm curious to open the casing to that baby. Rumor is it contains Bellium-24, a material light as aluminum but strong enough to crack brick. But until Geigel subpoenas the racket, I guess we'll never know."

An inquiry from this office to Geigel questioning him about the delay in investigation was returned with a brochure describing the next NWA convention in Las Vegas. We cannot say whether the exchange was intentional. We can say the failure to respond to this controversy does not speak well for either the NWA office, or its president.

Although we disapprove of rumor-mongering in any publication, the seed of doubt demands attention. Whenever a substantial outlay of money is needed, Jim Cornette's mother has been known to hand out blank checks. Will Bob Geigel arrive at his convention by rented car or limousine; will his accommodations be a single room, or a private suite? Care to respond, Mr. President? ☐

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MISSY HYATT AND SUNSHINE

(Continued from page 39)



Hyatt suffers terrible humiliation, not so much because her dress has been ripped off, but because there is a hole in her stocking.

her tastes, she continued her narcissistic banter.

"You like?" she asked, rhetorically, thrusting a set of fake claws in my face. "Aren't they beautiful?" Missy teasingly adjusted her skirt. I silently cursed a God whose handiwork could allow for a creature like Missy to exist. How many men would be victimized by this golden swamp fox?

"Aren't you afraid you'll break a nail in the ring, Missy?" I asked her.

"It's different out there," she snapped. "I'd mess my perm any day to make a creep like Sunshine howl in pain."

A minor breakthrough. "What is it you hate most about Sunshine?"

Missy's golden hues turned a pasty white. "I just hate her," she growled. "Tell me, honestly, who is better looking?"

I allowed that my taste in wom-

en ran more toward Beverly Sills and Charo.

"Oh, poo you," she scowled. "There's no comparison. I'm the most beautiful woman in wrestling. I knock men out all over the world. So why is that dirty little mutt cheered like she's Miss America? Why?"

Ah, ah! Ol' Matt hadn't seen the green-eyed monster this hard at work in ages. Jealousy. Sunshine's popularity reminds Missy Hyatt of her desperate isolation. She craves Sunshine's spotlight, would murder for it, or, as she would a sexy lip rouge, attempt to buy it, not realizing that warmth and compassion have no price. Missy's got a boatload of Lotharios at her fake fingertips, but the last good friend she had she trashed along with her training bra. Her understanding of human relationships never kept pace with her bone structure. This beautiful dame is one lonely lady.

I needed to confirm my theory with Sunshine. On the pretext of meeting an ancient flame, I excused myself. "Tell Charo I said hello," Missy chirped, revealing a gritty sense of humor. Damn her and her parabolas. Damn all women. Sunshine lived in a three story walk-up in the part of Dallas you'll never see J.R. Ewing power-play in. "Hey, I can afford to live anywhere I want," Sunshine said to me, as we strolled the sprawling, store-dotted main street.

"Yo, Sunshine! How's my baby?"

"Hey, Sunshine. I loved your match last night. You were terrific, babe."

Sunshine responded with a wave. "But if I moved into some big ol' house, it would take me away from them. From my people. My friends. I got everything I need right here."

We drifted into a storefront for coffee. "No charge for this lovely lady and her friend," the musta-

choiced behemoth behind the counter said, slipping two cups of java in front of us. "She never has a check here. And you can write that down."

I was being seduced, but in a homespun, leisurely way that murders a reporter's instincts. "Do you hate Missy Hyatt enough to kill her?" I finally blurted.

Sunshine looked into her coffee. I expected contemplation, but not the tears. "She's always making fun of me," she broke. "Her and Precious and Baby Doll, they never stop teasing me about what I'm trying to do in Texas. I hate them. I hate them all. They don't know how much they hurt me."

I asked her if the outpouring of neighborhood affection didn't belittle the cruel taunts of a couple of cackling, shrewish she-devils.

"I know how I'm supposed to feel. I know how lucky I am having all these friends and their support. But as a woman, it hurts when other women ridicule you. They call me all sorts of names. They spread stories about me. I have a tough reputation that I worked hard to get, but I'm also a woman. I'm not indestructible."

"I can't wait to mess up Missy Hyatt's perfect face. I can't wait to break her perfect legs. She can get Johnny Tatum and all his friends. It won't make a bit of difference. She's a no-good, lying hussy tramp, and I aim to put her out of wrestling if it's the last thing I do."

I excused myself to the can. This assignment had confirmed my worst fears. Where men spill blood over principles and tenets, woman smear mascara over harmless name-callings. I put in a call to Pete King at his home. "Matty, call me back tomorrow, willya bud. Tanya's over." Click.

I ran some water through my hair and looked in the mirror. "You sonofagun," I said out loud. "Thank God you never got hitched. Thank God." □

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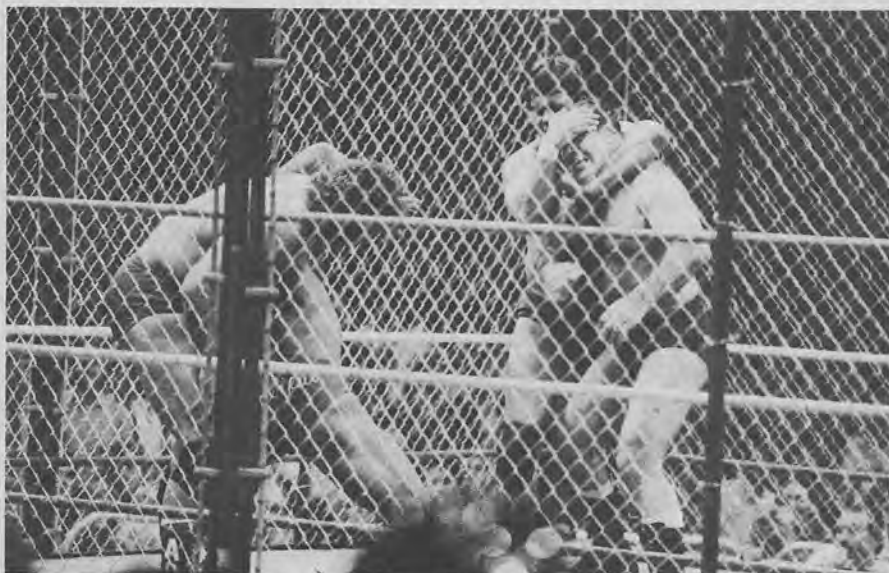
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BRUNO SAMMARTINO

(Continued from page 35)



Bruno drives an elbow into Roddy Piper's midsection to escape a sleeperhold while Orndorff powers out of Orton's abdominal stretch. Bruno is more concerned with the future of his sport than with his personal safety.

mate the power and influence of television on wrestling.

"And this is why I feel so strongly about making a comeback. Roddy Piper and Jesse Ventura spoil the honor and prestige of wrestling with their filthy talk and filthier attitudes on television. I don't know for the life of me why they are allowed to spread their vile gospel to the children of this country. I mean, look, this Piper character has been calling me a wop, insulting my heritage. If I was his only target, then that's okay, but he's been insulting blacks and women and Polynesians as well for as long as he has been on the air. It's disgusting, and somebody has to teach him a lesson. There is no place for bigotry and prejudice on the television. Do you know, Bill, that there are actually Roddy Piper fans out there who agree with that which he says about ethnic groups? And that some of them are *children*?"

I shook my head yes, slowly.

"And then there's Ventura. Another bad role model for impressionable young fans. He praises any instance of rulebreaking, and sneers at fair play in the ring. The fact that he has so many fans these days makes him even more dangerous. If a man gouges his opponent, Ventura cackles and tells the

young fans this is a great move, this is how we should wrestle. This is inexcusable!

"I have spent a quarter-century fighting for decency and honor in that ring, and I am not about to let two loudmouths ruin my sport's integrity. There is too much at stake in these troubled times."

The knock on the door came. It was Paul Orndorff, Bruno's tag team partner, a man with a very different grudge to settle with Piper. It was 10 minutes till match time. As Bruno finished lacing up his boots, I mentally discarded all the questions I was going to ask him about why on earth he had made a comeback. He had made things all too clear.

That night in the Meadowlands, I wouldn't be surprised if there were some fans who didn't know what Bruno meant to wrestling back in the '60s and '70s. The vets like me tend to stay at home and watch it on the tube. Or else they just don't care about what happens to wrestling these days.

Well, Bruno cares. And I sure as hell care. Guess who walked out of that cage first. It was the only man in the ring who was fighting not for his own security and ego, but for the sport he loves. □

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TATTLER

(Continued from page 8)

qualification over Nikita Koloff and Baron Von Raschke, and Farmer Pete defeating crowd favorite Frenchy Lamar.

No one in the crowd left disappointed, especially the promoter. "As far as I'm concerned, the National Wrestling Alliance is here to stay," he said firmly.

—Geoffrey York

KANSAS CITY, KS: The action inside the venerable Memorial Hall is heating up despite the record low winter temperatures battering the Kansas area. Ric Flair and Bruiser Brody battled to a blood-curdling no-contest here recently, while Kevin "The Magnificent" Kelly, Harley Race, Rocky Johnson, and Bulldog Bob Brown continue to raise the fans out of their seats.

The big news though is the emergence of female star, Debbie Combs. Debbie, daughter of legendary grappler Cora Combs, has established herself as the number one contender for Misty Blue Simmes' IWF crown, although that designation is meaningless to her.

"Misty Blue Simmes and her crown mean nothing to me. I am the greatest wrestler in the world and I have no interest in some Mickey Mouse honky-tonk wrestler like Misty Blue Simmes.

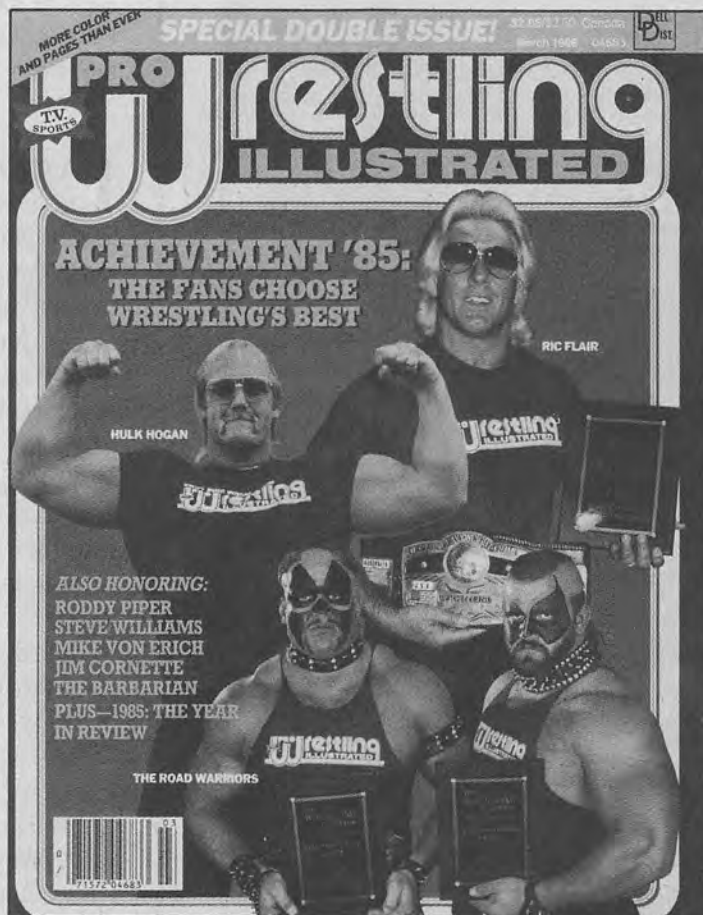
"I'll be officially recognized as the number one wrestler in the world after I complete my tour of the universe."

Misty Blue elected to swap insults with Combs, saying that, "I have the crown, and Debbie Combs has fat (Continued on page 62)



DEBBIE COMBS

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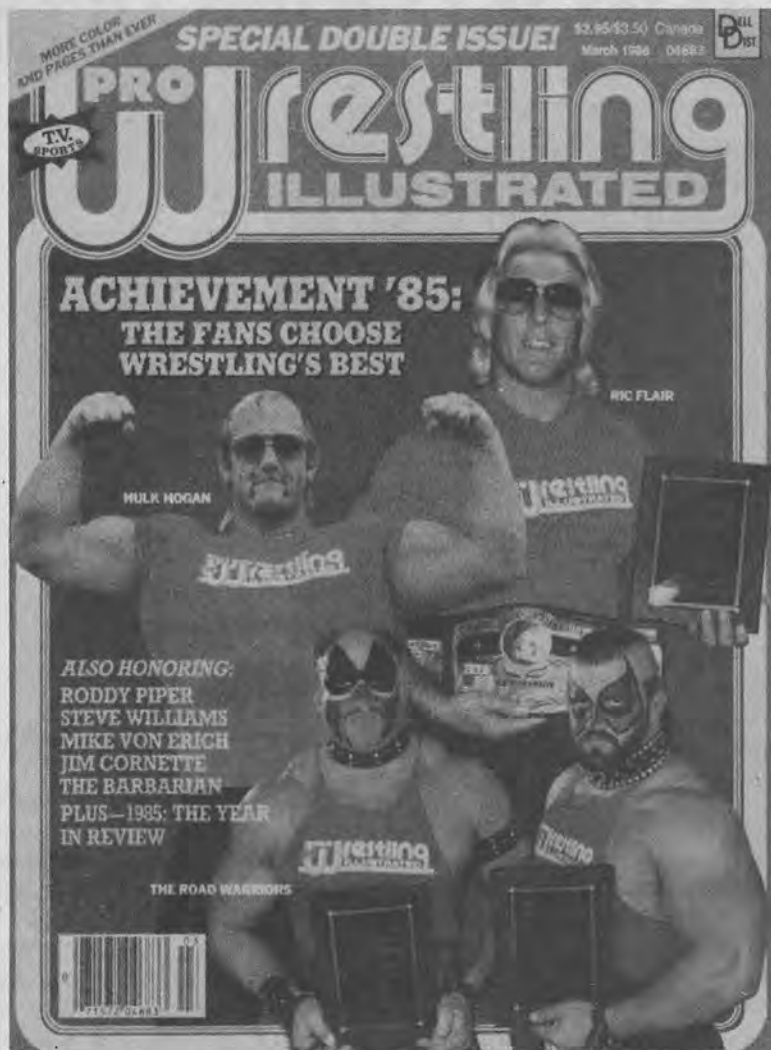
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TATTLER

(Continued from page 60)

legs. If she has the courage to meet me in the ring, I will be happy to show her who the better woman is.

"I've proved all that I must prove. Debbie Combs has proven nothing. I try not to pay attention to small talk from small people."

—Buddy Ford

LANDOVER, MD: Terry Funk hates to lose. Hulk Hogan almost never loses. Put the two together in a wrestling ring and trouble and controversy is bound to ensue. After Hogan predictably pinned Funk in a match here at the Capital Centre, Funk went berserk, and attacked Hogan with his branding iron. Hogan again quickly regained the advantage and was prepared to attack Funk with his own weapon when Dory Funk Jr. leaped into the ring and intervened on his brother's behalf.

Quickly joining the fray was Jimmy Hart, Funk's lithe but calculating manager, who darted in and out of harm's way while delivering several blows to Hogan's face and body.

The Funks would have beaten on the WWF champ till *WrestleMania 5* had not Junkyard Dog come bravely to his rescue. JYD, himself the center of a heated feud with Terry Funk, cleared the ring of the three rule-breakers and assisted Hogan back to the dressing room. Hogan was examined by arena doctors and released.

Funk, who lost his WWC Universal championship to Carlos Colon last June, would not comment on his future in the WWF. Dory and Terry, both former NWA World champions, would make a dangerous tag team, however. "What I do with my life is no business of anybody's," he snapped at reporters following the incident at the Capital Centre.

If he does decide to stay, he will do so knowing that he has earned the wrath of a 6'8", 320-pounder who almost never loses.

—John West □

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INTERVIEW

(Continued from page 42)



After being piledrived, Roberts seemed to forget the stipulation that prohibited the use of the DDT.

ranked by the experts as one of the very best in the sport. Why do you think that is?

A: You should be able to answer that one yourself. Journalists love to write about guys they can pigeon-hole. It's easier that way. It makes writin' stories the same as word association tests. Butch Reed's a big muscle type. Dick Murdoch's a redneck type. Steve Williams is a tough guy who never feels pain. And so on. It's easy to write about those guys. But what do you think of when you have to write about Dick Slater? I'm Mr. Unpredictable. It's a challenge. So you don't write about me at all. I don't care about that anymore, though. You may not give me the credit I deserve for being the greatest, most versatile wrestler who ever lived, but you'll have to write about me until I retire. I'll be makin' all the news. □

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If you don't think so, just watch what turns women's heads on the beach. They get turned on by well-built guys. They're the ones with the prettiest girls. It's a rare fellow who doesn't want to look good in his clothes and is happy with a skinny frame, who has not envied men who weighed a little more, had a better appetite and generally displayed a physical fitness that spoke of health and well-being. True, while doctors and nutrition specialists warn against being fat, very little is said about the equal or greater evils of being underweight. So there's more to it than cosmetic aspects. Skinny is not only unattractive. It is also unhealthy. Gaining weight could mean gaining health for you.

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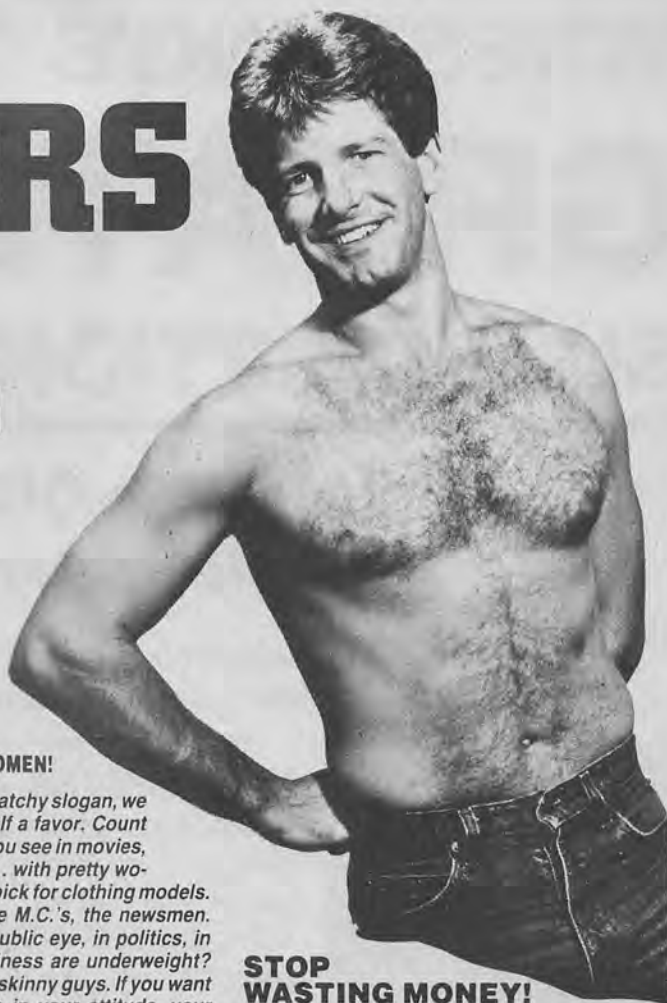
Skinny men are not great lovers. That's a known fact. Add a few pounds and you'll be amazed how it will improve your love-life. Women know this and are conscious of the fact that skinny men can't go the distance. The race is to the strong, the saying goes. And the fellow who is handsomest doesn't look like a stand-in for the family skeleton. Many a man found that gaining a few more pounds has helped him overcome chronic illness, major or minor. Many a doctor has prescribed gaining weight. But so little is publicized about skinny men. The great amount of publicity given to coronary problems has brought the bulk of weight attention to those men who weigh too much. Men who weigh too little never really get equal time. But their problem is no less serious.

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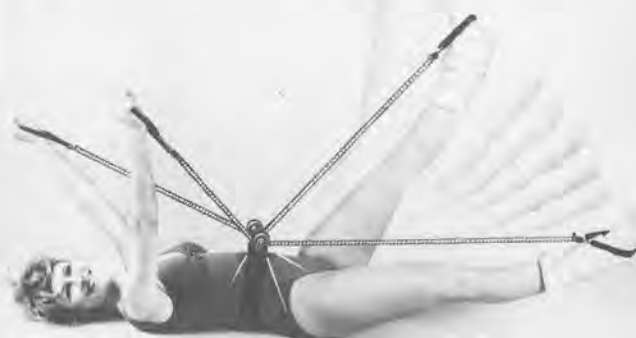
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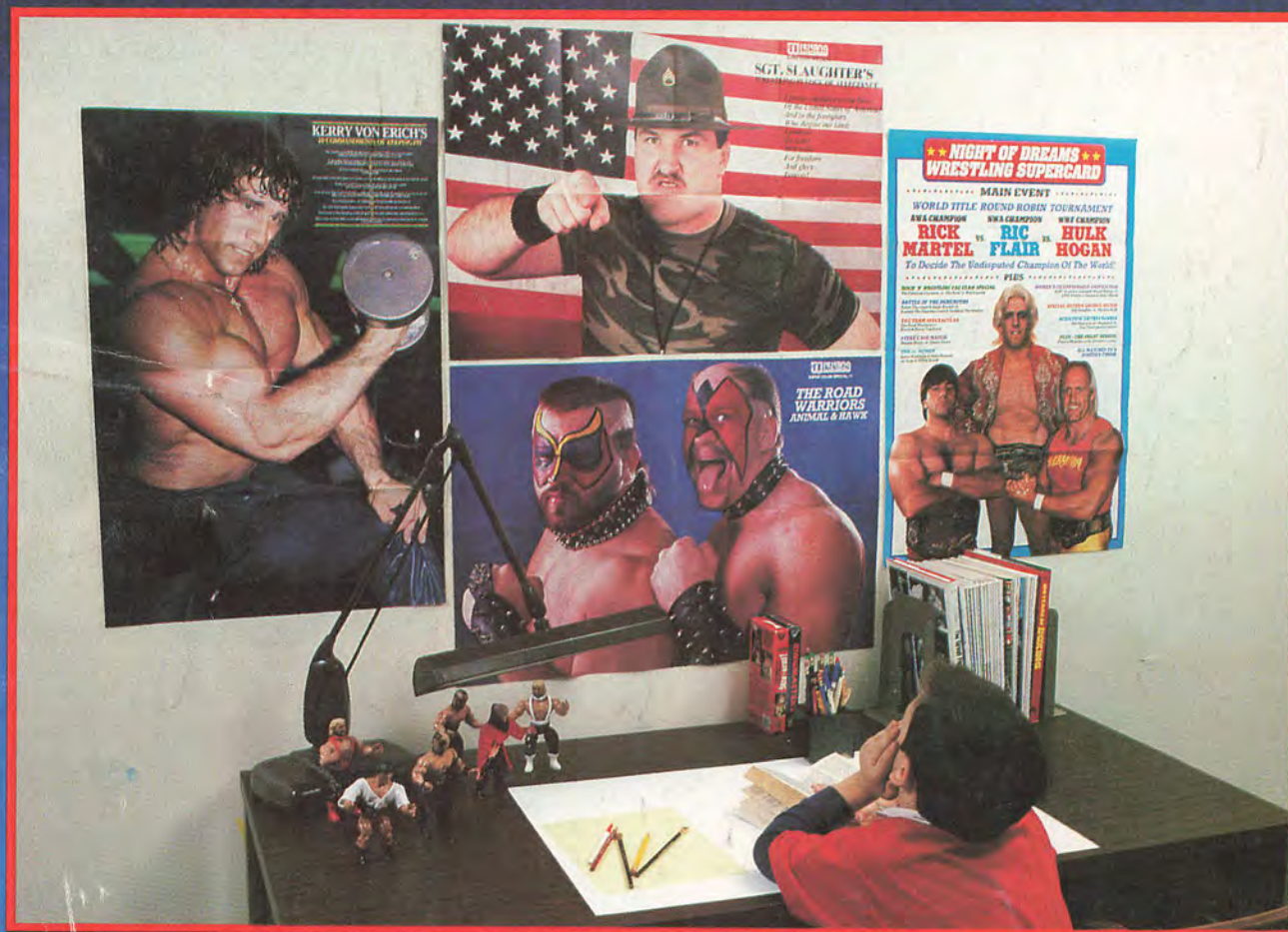
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